15TH ANNIVERSARY OF RESOLUTION 1325

Coverage Report
OP-ED PLACEMENT
GLOBAL VIEWS » IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UN WOMEN

Turn words into action involving women for lasting peace

By Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka | 12 October 2015

Women in Mahe, North Darfur attend the Open Day Workshop on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, which reaffirms the critical role of women in prevention and resolution of conflicts as well as the promotion and maintenance of peace. Photo by: Sajjad Elgarai / UNAMID / CC BY-NC-ND

We have recently celebrated the peace deal struck between the government in Colombia and the main guerrilla group. The deal, reached on justice issues represents the clearest sign yet of a possible end to five decades of conflict. Less is said about the multiple constructive ways in which Colombian women have participated in, and influenced, these negotiations or mobilized for peace, including the many meetings held by women survivors with the women in both negotiating teams.

12 October 2015

HOW THE UN CAN HELP WOMEN MAKE MORE PEACE

Ed note. This is an op-ed by the executive director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka.

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Similarly, few people know that last year also saw the end of another decade-long conflict in The Philippines between the Government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, in peace talks where more than a third of negotiators were women: far above the norm in official peace talks, which are typically either all-male affairs or include very few women. Their participation was built on a long history of women’s leadership at the local and national levels in The Philippines over the years. Including under the leadership of two women presidents who both invested political capital in resuming negotiations with the rebel group.

As tensions threaten Burundi’s fragile peace, Burundian women quickly organized themselves in a nationwide network of women mediators to quell or mitigate the myriad local disputes and prevent escalation. In 129 municipalities across the country, they addressed, by their count, approximately 3,000 conflicts at the local level in 2015, including mediating between security forces and protesters, advocating for the release of demonstrators and political prisoners, promoting non-violence and dialogue among divided communities, and countering rumors and exaggerated fears with verifiable information to prevent widespread panic. UN Women has been proud to support these efforts.

These are not isolated stories. A comprehensive study prepared for the fifteenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325, a landmark resolution that recognized the role of gender equality and women’s leadership in international peace and security, makes the strongest case to date that gender equality improves our humanitarian assistance, strengthens the protection efforts of our peacekeepers, contributes to the conclusion of peace talks and the sustainability of peace agreements, and accelerates economic recovery after conflict. It compiles growing evidence accumulated by academic researchers that demonstrates how peace negotiations
Convertir las palabras en acciones

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka*
Naciones Unidas (13 octubre 2015).

Reformulando los progresos realizados en el proceso de paz en Colombia.

El acuerdo alcanzado en temas de justicia representa la señal más clara hasta la fecha de un posible fin a cinco decenios de conflicto.

Se habla menos, en cambio, de las muchas formas constructivas en que las mujeres colombianas han participado e influenciado estas negociaciones o se han movilizado a favor de la paz, incluidas las muchas reuniones realizadas por mujeres sobrevivientes con las mujeres de ambos equipos negociadores.

De mismo modo, pocas personas saben que el año pasado también fue el final de otro conflicto que duró más de 50 años. El conflicto en East Timor.

*Primera mujer africana en ser nombrada en la Cima de la ONU.
Turn Words Into Action Involving Women for Lasting Peace

We have recently celebrated the peace deal struck between the Government in Colombia and the main guerrilla group. The deal reached on justice issues represents the clearest sign yet of a possible end to five decades of conflict. Less is said about the multiple constructive ways in which Colombian women have participated in, and influenced, these negotiations or mobilized for peace, including the many meetings held by women survivors with the women in both negotiating teams. Similarly, few people know that last year also saw the end of another decade-long conflict in The Philippines between the Government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, in peace talks where more than a third of negotiators were women; far above the norm in official peace talks, which are typically either all-male affairs or include very few women. Their participation was built on a long history of women’s leadership at the local and national levels in The Philippines over the years, including under the leadership of two women presidents who both invested political capital in resuming negotiations with the rebel group.

As tensions threaten Burundi’s fragile peace, Burundian women quickly organized themselves in a nationwide network of women mediators to quell or mitigate the myriad local disputes and prevent escalation. In 129 municipalities across the country, they addressed, by their count, approximately 3,000 conflicts at the local level in 2015, including mediating between security forces and protesters, advocating for the release of demonstrators and political prisoners, promoting non-violence and dialogue among divided communities, and countering rumours and exaggerated fears with verifiable information to prevent widespread panic. UN Women has been proud to support these efforts.
Action needed to close gender gap to achieve sustainable peace

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
October 12, 2015  Updated: October 12, 2015 12:22 PM

We have recently celebrated the peace deal between the government of Colombia and the main guerrilla group. The accord on judicial issues represents the clearest sign yet of a possible end to five decades of conflict. Little is heard about the ways in which Colombian women have participated in, and influenced, these negotiations.

Similarly, few people know that last year also saw the end of a decades-long conflict in the Philippines between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. In the peace talks, more than a third of negotiators were women – far above the norm. These women have a long history of leadership at the local and national levels in their countries. They also worked with the two female presidents who invested considerable political capital in bringing the rebel group to the negotiating table.

In Burundi, women took the lead to solve local disputes that posed a threat to the region’s fragile peace.
Opinion: Turn Words into Action Involving Women for Lasting Peace

By Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN Women.

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 13 2015 (IPS) - We have recently celebrated the peace deal struck between the government in Colombia and the main guerrilla group. The deal reached on justice issues represents the clearest sign yet of a possible end to five decades of conflict.

Less is said about the multiple constructive ways in which Colombian women have participated in, and influenced, these negotiations or mobilized for peace, including the many meetings held by women survivors with the women in both negotiating teams.

Similarly, few people know that last year also saw the end of another decade-long conflict in the Philippines between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. The result of peace talks where more than a third of negotiators were women. This was far from the norm of official peace talks, which are typically either all male affairs or include very few women.

Their participation was built on a long history of women’s leadership at the local and national levels in the Philippines over the years, including under the leadership of two women presidents who both invested political capital in resuming negotiations with the rebel group.

As tensions threaten Burundi’s fragile peace, Burundian women quickly organized themselves in a nationwide network of women mediators to quell or mitigate the myriad local disputes and prevent escalation. In 126 municipalities across the country, they addressed, by their count, approximately 3,000 conflicts at the local level in 2015, including mediating between security forces and protesters, advocating for the release of demonstrators and political prisoners, promoting non-violence and dialogue among divided communities, and countering rumours and exaggerated fears with verifiable information to prevent widespread panic. UN Women has been proud to support these efforts.

These are not isolated stories.

A comprehensive study prepared for the 15th anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325, a landmark resolution that recognized the role of gender equality and women’s leadership in international peace and security, makes the strongest case to date that gender equality improves our humanitarian assistance, strengthens the protection efforts of our peacekeepers, contributes to the conclusion of peace talks and the sustainability of peace agreements, and accelerates economic recovery after conflict.

It compiles growing evidence accumulated by academic researchers that demonstrates how peace negotiations influenced by women are much more likely to end in agreement and to endure. In fact, the chances of the
WE have recently celebrated the peace deal struck between the government in Colombia and the main guerrilla group. The deal reached on justice issues represents the clearest sign yet of a possible end to five decades of conflict. Less is said about the multiple constructive ways in which Colombian women have participated in, and influenced, these negotiations or mobilised for peace, including the many meetings held by women survivors with the women in both negotiating teams.
Gender Equity: It’s Good For Lasting Peace

By UN Women on October 13, 2015

By Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Under-Secretary-General and UN Women Executive Director

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- **PRAVDA (RUSSIA):**
  
  http://english.pravda.ru/history/13-10-2015/132306-words_into_action-0/

- **THE BANGKOK POST:**
  
  http://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/726848/why-accords-fail-without-women

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PRESS CONFERENCE COVERAGE
Want peace talks to work? Include this key group

A U.N. study released Monday concludes women’s participation in peace talks is key to ending military conflicts.

The 420-page study, entitled "Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing the Peace," was produced by UN Women and a high-level advisory group, and authored by UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and former Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict Radhika Coomaraswamy.

In an interview with CBS News, Mlambo-Ngcuka explained, "Women do not start wars, so when they are coming into the peace table, they are not there to settle a score with their enemy, they are there in the first instance because they want a ceasefire, they want access to humanitarian services for all, they want a break for their children to go to school, and they want their country to be constructed."

The extensive study was based on research by the Graduate Institute in Geneva from 2011 to 2015 and on in-depth analysis of 40 peace processes since the end of the Cold War.

The authors’ conclusion is clear: "The report documents that when women are involved in the peace process, the agreements last."

"So who did what and how many points you must gain, that is not their starting point. Their starting point is 'stop the war,'" Mlambo-Ngcuka said.
UN special tribunal sought for peacekeeper sex crimes

A 400-page UN report out Monday calls for the creation of a special international tribunal to judge peacekeepers accused of serious crimes, including sex crimes. The call follows a series of sex scandals among the “blue helmet” troops on peace missions in Africa, especially in the Central African Republic.

The report was made public by UN Women, the international body’s office in charge of gender equality and female empowerment, to mark the 15th anniversary of a historic UN resolution on the important role of women in international peace and security. The report’s main author is Radhika Coomaraswamy, a former United Nations special representative for children and armed conflict.

At a press conference, Coomaraswamy said that under current rules peacekeeping soldiers can only be tried in the country from which they came – and this “does not happen often because countries don’t like their soldiers to be prosecuted anywhere in the world.”

Furthermore, some countries where peacekeepers have been deployed lack a judicial system that can guarantee due process and a fair trial. The idea of a special tribunal comes from legal and academic experts, Coomaraswamy said, not from UN officials.

“I am not saying it is going to take off in a big hurry ... but it is something could work on,” Coomaraswamy said.

Options include hybrid tribunals, or an international convention obliging contributing nations to judge their accused soldiers. A better option “would be the establishment of an international tribunal, created under a treaty between states, with jurisdiction to try UN staff in the field and all categories of peacekeepers,” the report said.

Such a tribunal would handle “serious crimes committed by UN personnel, including sexual crimes.”

The report said that peace agreements that include input from women also have a better chance of success and called for greater female participation in UN peacekeeping missions.

Women currently account for just three percent of military personnel assigned to the 16 UN peacekeeping missions.

“It is clearly an unacceptable number,” said Executive Director of UN Women.
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http://www.freepressjournal.in/womens-role-in-peace-recovery-should-be-strengthened-united-nations/
Amid rising extremism, women's role in peace, recovery should be strengthened, says UN Women

UNited Nations, Oct. 12 (Xinhua) -- As the world is grappling with rising violent extremism, women's role in achieving peace and security should be enhanced, the leader of UN Women said on Monday.

"The evidence shows us unequivocally that women need to be full participants at the peace tables, as negotiators and decision-makers in a much more inclusive process," Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, said at a press conference.

"Women have to be able to control where resources are needed, for example to overcome trauma and the scars of war, or directing practical recovery matters like restitution of property and fields," said Mlambo-Ngcuka, who is also UN Under-Secretary-General.

On Tuesday, the United Nations Security Council will conduct a high-level review in commemoration of resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, which recognized for the first time in 2000 the role of gender equality and women's leadership in international peace and security.

Prior to the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325, 11 percent of peace agreements made a reference to women or gender. Since then, this percentage has increased to 27 percent.

Yet, this shows that almost three-quarters of peace agreements over the past 15 years.
Faced with growing extremism, the role of women should be strengthened: UN Women

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 12 (Xinhua) - As the world struggles with a growing violent extremism, the role of women in achieving peace and security should be expanded, today said the director of UN Women.

"The evidence shows unequivocally that women need to be full participants in the peace table as negotiators and decision-makers in a much more inclusive process," he said at a press conference, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, executive director of UN Women.

"Women should be able to control where resources are required, for example to overcome the trauma and scars of war, or direct practical issues of recovery and restitution of properties and fields," Mlambo-Ngcuka, also secretary general said UN.

The Security Council of the UN held on Tuesday a high-level review to commemorate Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, which recognized for the first time in 2000 the role of gender equality and women's leadership in peace and security.

Prior to the adoption of resolution 1325, 11 percent of peace agreements made reference to women or gender. Since then, the percentage has risen to 27 percent.

But this indicates that nearly three quarters of the peace agreements of the last 15 years not mention women, statistics indicated in UN Women.
Peace endures when women can participate meaningfully in peace talks, says new UN report

An all-female Formed Police Unit from Bangladesh, serving with the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti, arrives in Port-au-Prince to assist with post-earthquake reconstruction. UN Photo/Marco Dormino

12 October 2015 - A new report on women, peace and security, launched today to coincide with the 15th anniversary of the landmark United Nations Security Council resolution on the issue, highlights the important gains to be made by the greater empowerment of women in peacebuilding efforts.

UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, the lead author of the global study, introduced it at a press conference at UN Headquarters.

"Since 2000, when resolution 1325 was adopted, the UN has recognized that women's leadership and equality are key to international peace and security," said Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka.

"This is now an accepted global norm," she added, while noting that it had been "reiterated as many times as it has been ignored in practice."
The subordination of women is increasingly at the centre of extremist ideology around the world, according to the author of a report on the implementation of a landmark UN resolution.

Security Council Resolution 1325, which was adopted 15 years ago, addresses the excessive impact of war on women. It also highlights the role that women can play in conflict resolution and peace.

Radhika Coomaraswamy is the lead author of the Global Study which aims to make the resolution effective. Daniel Dickinson asked her what evidence she has that women are being increasingly targeted in conflict situations.

Duration: 2’58”
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La ONU busca impulsar el papel de la mujer contra la guerra y el extremismo

La ONU reconoce desde hace años el papel clave de la mujer en la solución de conflictos, pero considera que ha llegado el momento de darle un nuevo impulso ante las crecientes guerras y el avance del extremismo.

Con cifras en la mano, la organización destacó hoy la importancia de involucrar a mujeres en esos esfuerzos, dominados tradicionalmente por los hombres, sobre todo si se quiere tener éxito a largo plazo.
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Casques bleus: des experts favorables à un tribunal spécial pour les abus sexuels

NATIONS UNIES (ETATS-UNIS) (AFP) - Un rapport d'experts commandé par l'ONU et présenté lundi préconise de créer un tribunal international spécial pour juger les Casques bleus coupables d'exactions sexuelles, à la suite d'une série de scandales dans des missions de paix de l'ONU en Afrique.

Le rapport a été présenté à la presse par ONU Femmes, l'organisme de l'ONU chargé de la promotion des femmes, à l'occasion du 15ème anniversaire d'une résolution historique de l'ONU sur le rôle des femmes dans la paix et la sécurité internationales.
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