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SEP 24 2014

Note to the Secretary-General

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14-08816
EXECUTIVE SECRET
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
Preparations for the 2015 High-level Review of the Security Council
of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security
and the related Global Study requested in Security Council resolution 2122 (2013)

24/09/14

1. I am writing in follow-up to my notes of 12 March 2014 and of 22 October 2013 regarding United Nations' implementation of Security Council resolution 2122 (2013) on women, peace and security, in particular regarding the preparations for the 2015 Security Council High-level Review to assess progress at the global, regional and national levels in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security and the related Global Study requested in operative paragraph 16.

2. The Study comes at an opportune time aligning with other major policy reviews and debates underway, including discussions linked to the Post-2015 development framework and the 20-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The Study will greatly benefit from and be informed by these processes and allows for an examination of linkages between the various agendas and synergies supporting the maintenance of peace and security from a gender perspective.

3. UN Women as the Chair of the Interagency Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security¹ is also serving as the Secretariat of the study, and in partnership with the Permanent Missions of Ireland and the United Arab Emirates launched the study on 10th September 2014 in New York. We are pleased to inform you that the well-attended event generated strong political and financial commitments on behalf of a diverse group of member states towards the Study. We have encouraged member states to support the Study's work by providing financial contributions, substantive and political expertise, support the commissioning of research, as well as by holding national consultations and dialogues that would feed into the study's recommendations.

4. On behalf of the Standing Committee, I am pleased to provide the following updates regarding the management and implementation of the study for your consideration:

- a. **Independent expert:** We are pleased to note that the Study is being led by Radhika Coomaraswamy, who previously served as your Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict, as well as the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women. Ms. Coomaraswamy is a leading expert on gender equality, peace and security who will be the lead author lending an independent perspective to the research and analysis.
- b. **Expert advisory group:** We have confirmed a group of seventeen eminent experts who have accepted our invitation to join the high level expert advisory group, which will help ensure strong visibility and guide the Study and its findings. The Board is geographically representative and has the core areas of technical expertise to provide substantive guidance in the conceptualization, development and finalization of the Study. A list of the members is attached.

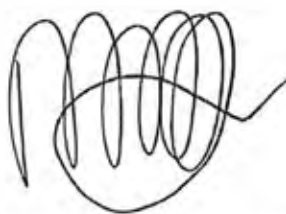
¹ The UN Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality include members from over 20 United Nations entities working across the pillars of peace and security, human rights and development. Civil society organizations participate as observers.

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- c. **Consultations and strategic partnerships:** Working with UN field missions, regional and national offices, Member States and civil society partners, the lead author will undertake **national and regional consultations**, meet with different stakeholders, including government, civil society and women's organizations as well as women impacted by conflict, thereby ensuring that their voices are represented in the Study. The **2014 Open Days** are also being used as a vehicle to receive inputs directly from affected women in conflict zones.
- d. **Communications strategy:** A global communication strategy is being developed to guide global, regional and national launches of the Study as well as the preparations for the 2015 High-level Review. This will **include engagement with both traditional and social media** to generate debate, reach new audiences and offer dynamic ways for users to engage with the findings of the Study and in the preparations for the Review. An **interactive web portal** will also be developed as a central part of the outreach strategy with multimedia complements.
5. There is converging consensus on a number of **points**, in particular that the study should be carried out: **as independently and objectively as possible**; **be inclusive in its consultations**; and that it should have a **strong focus on impact and real change** and progress in the lives of women and girls rather than processes.
6. As per my previous note to you, in regards to sequencing, it is envisaged that the outcomes of the Study will feed **into the High-level Review of the Security Council in 2015**. It is expected that the Study will **help mobilize and accelerate necessary action and point the way to a more systematic way forward through new analysis and data, case studies, collection of good practice as well as concrete evidence-based recommendations** guiding both policy-makers and practitioners. As such, the Study along with your 2015 report to the Security Council on women and peace and security, will provide an opportunity to put forward a **concrete policy agenda** beyond 2015.
7. Once again, I thank you for your strong commitment to the implementation of the women, **peace** and security agenda. And we would be very grateful for a public statement from you welcoming the launch of the Study, and the appointment of the lead author and high level advisory group. The buy in of our leadership is crucial to articulating the UN's commitment to this important endeavor.



Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
24 September 2014



Fw: Preparations for the 2015 High-level Review of the Security Council of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security and the related Global Study requested in Security Council resolution 2122 (2013)

SGCentral to: Hazel Foster

24/09/2014 09:34 PM

Sent by: Hazel Foster

----- Forwarded by Hazel Foster/NY/UNO on 24/09/2014 09:33 PM -----

From: SGCentral/NY/UNO
To: Xiomara Fiallo/NY/UNO@UNHQ,
Date: 24/09/2014 05:38 PM
Subject: Fw: Preparations for the 2015 High-level Review of the Security Council of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security and the related Global Study requested in Security Council resolution 2122 (2013)
Sent by: Xiomara Fiallo

----- Forwarded by Xiomara Fiallo/NY/UNO on 24/09/2014 05:38 PM -----

From: Isabel Deza <isabel.deza@unwomen.org>
To: "sgcentral@un.org" <sgcentral@un.org>,
Date: 24/09/2014 05:37 PM
Subject: Preparations for the 2015 High-level Review of the Security Council of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security and the related Global Study requested in Security Council resolution 2122 (2013)

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached a note from the Executive Director of UN Women Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka addressed to the Secretary-General on the above mentioned subject.

I would be grateful if you could please acknowledge receipt of this email and the attached note.

With best regards,
Isabel.



Isabel Deza

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