

NGO Working Group on Women Peace and Security
Resolution 1325: Two Years On Report
October 31, 2002

NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security Coordinator:
Indira Kajosevic
777 UN Plaza, 6th Floor
New York, New York 10017 USA
Tel. 1 718 626 2681
indira@peacewomen.org

Hague Appeal for Peace
C/o IWTC, 777 UN Plaza, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10017 USA
Ph: 1 212 687 2623, Fax: 1 212 661 2704
Email: hap@haguepeace.org

International Alert
Dolby House, 346 Clapham Road, SW9 9AP, United Kingdom
Ph: 011 44 207 793 8383, Fax: 011 44 207 793 7975
Email: njohnston@international-alert.org

International Women's Tribune Center
777 UN Plaza, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10017, USA
Ph: 1 212 687 8633, Fax: 1 212 661 2704
Email: iwtc@iwtc.org

Women's Caucus for Gender Justice
P O Box 3541, Grand Central Post Office, New York, NY 10163 USA
Ph: 1 718 626 2681, Fax: 1 718 626 3528
Email: caucus@iccwomen.org

Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children
122 East 42nd Street, New York NY 10168, USA
Ph: 1 212 551 3063, Fax: 1 212 551 3180
Email: info@womenscommission.org

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
777 UN Plaza, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10017, USA
Ph: 1 212 682 1265, Fax: 1 212 286 8211
Email: wilpfun@igc.org

Table of Contents

Introduction

Highlights of Actions & Initiatives Involving Governments and Intergovernmental Bodies

Intergovernmental Bodies

African Union
European Parliament
Inter-Congolese Dialogues
International Criminal Court and ICTY
Southern African Development Community
World Health Organization

Governments

Afghanistan
Canada
Egypt
Ghana
Senegal
United Kingdom
United States

Highlights of Actions and Initiatives of NGOs and Individuals

Women in Colombia
East Timor
The Middle East
Judgment of the Tokyo Tribunal 2000
Women, Peacebuilding and Constitution-Making
Dialogue Between Academics, Activists and UN Officials
Justice and Accountability and the ICC
AWID's 9th International Forum
World Women's Security Council

Activities and Initiatives of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security

Working Group Activities
Member Activities
Chronological Listing of Other News and Highlights Relating to Women's Activisms

Annex

Statements to Security Council:
Jamila (Afghanistan)
Haxhere Veseli (Kosovo)
Natercia Godinho-Adams (East Timor)
NGO Working Group
CAFOB
NGO Working Group
Angelina Atyam (Uganda)
Gila Svirsky (Israel)
Teesta Setalvad (India)
Sabine Sabimbona (Burundi)

Declarations, Resolutions and Statements

The Nairobi Declaration
The Brussels Proclamation (Afghan Women's Summit) and Declaration of Solidarity
Statement of Cora Weiss
AWID Statement (Iraq)
Memorandum from Women's Organizations of Sri Lanka and Proposed Plan of Action
Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace, and Security

Introduction

The Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security was formed in 1999 to advocate for the first open session and subsequent resolution on women, peace and security of the United Nations Security Council. The group includes the Hague Appeal for Peace, International Alert, the International Women's Tribune Center, the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice, the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. These non-governmental organizations work with UN departments, supportive member states, and networks of local and regional women's NGO's towards the advancement and implementation of Resolution 1325.

Unlike most Security Council Resolutions, 1325 has a constituency of active organizations and individuals that know and quote its clauses and expect its full implementation. These groups and individuals have pooled their efforts, networks and expertise to spread the good news about the international commitments enshrined in Security Council Resolution 1325, and will continue to work towards ensuring its full implementation.

Since October 2000, however, many opportunities have been missed that could have made a lasting impact on women affected by war – opportunities to include greater representation of women in high level decision-making on conflict transformation, peace, and security matters, in peace negotiations, and in conflict prevention. Women's experiences are a valuable but overlooked early warning indicator of conflict. But the officially recognized international peace and security bodies and mechanisms do not adequately or systematically incorporate the information that women working on peace and security generate regularly, not to mention their talents and energies in the 'official' modes of negotiation and resolution.

There have, however, been some notable advances since the historic unanimous adoption of the Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security – advances that offer encouragement and point towards the type of action needed for fuller implementation of Resolution 1325.

In October 2001 the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security produced One Year On, an annotated compilation of activities, initiatives, publications and decisions taken since October 2000 by the UN system, governments and non-governmental organizations. This year's compilation, Two Years On, is intended to supplement One Year On (available on-line at <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/UN1325/since1325.html>).

Unlike the earlier counterpart, it does not attempt to detail the activities and initiatives related to Resolution 1325 that have taken place within the UN system since these are the subject of the Secretary-General's Report requested by Resolution 1325 and submitted to the Security Council in October 2002. Two Years On concentrates on the work involving governments and intergovernmental bodies outside the UN system or those related to the UN that would not be detailed in the Secretary-General's Report. This compilation is most concerned with highlighting the breadth and depth of the work of non-governmental organizations and individuals who have consistently endeavored to identify alternatives to war and advance the cause of real peace despite the persistent marginalization of their efforts.

We note, however, that not all organizations or individuals have access to the media or internet to document their peacebuilding activities and neither is it regarded as a priority in the face of day-to-day survival emergencies in conflict zones. Therefore, we make no claim that the items in this report represent the actual extent of the work women and civil society organizations are doing all over the world to promote peace.

As an ongoing work in progress, this annotated listing of activities and initiatives will continue to be developed and will seek to monitor, complement, and build on the work of the UN and the substance of the Secretary-General's Report. These updates will appear on www.peacewomen.org in an effort to provide a sense of the activities, initiatives, publications, and decisions taken since October 2000, as well as background and sources of further information.

A number of high activity focus areas have been high-lighted in this resource document, which covers the period October 2001- October 2002. These include developments and activities relating to:

- Afghanistan
- The African Union
- The International Criminal Court
- The Middle East
- The Inter-Congolese Dialogues

In this report, we have included an annex which contains key declarations and statements made by civil society peacebuilders and women's organizations in support of the advancement of the implementation of Resolution 1325 in UN and member state actions. We hope you find this report useful and affirmative. If you have additions and updates, comments please send them to info@peacewomen.org.

Highlights of Actions and Initiatives Involving Governments and Intergovernmental Bodies

Intergovernmental Bodies

African Union

African Union: Where Are the Women?

The Heads of States Summit of the Organization of African Unity formally launched the African Union in Durban, South Africa, on 19 July 2002. Gender equality had been given high priority in both the African Union (AU) charter and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (Nepad) principles but at its inaugural session all the African leaders present at the International Convention Centre in Durban were men.

http://www.sabcnews.com/africa/southern_africa/0,1009,38230,00.html

"The relative absence of women at this meeting does not augur well for democracy on our continent," said Frene Ginwala, South Africa's parliamentary speaker. At the insistence of women parliamentarians, members of the AU decided to add a provision to a Protocol requiring the appointment of five women commissioners from Africa's five regions. In addition, the women said, at least one woman from every country should be represented in the proposed pan-African parliament, one of 17 institutions of the AU. Ginwala pressed their case further by suggesting that all five members of the AU's Peace and Security Council -- intended to help curb continental conflict -- should be women "because women don't make war".

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200208010001.html>

European Parliament

Palestinian and Israeli Women in the European Parliament

December 4, 2001 - Two women active in Palestinian and Israeli organizations working towards peace and dialogue and in women's issues spent 3 months with the European Parliament as guests of the GUE/NGL Group. The purpose of their visit was to provide members of the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Union with updated information on current events. These included the situation of women and the work being done by women's organizations in Palestine and Israel, the efforts to negotiate a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East, the role of the European Union in the region, and violations of human rights.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/oldnews/pparliament.html>

Inter-Congolese Dialogues

According to article 19 of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement of 1999: "On the coming into force of the Agreement, the Government of the DRC, the armed opposition, namely the RCD and MLC as well as the unarmed opposition shall enter into an open national dialogue. These inter-Congolese political negotiations involving les forces vives shall lead to a new political dispensation and national reconciliation in the DRC. The inter-Congolese political negotiations shall be under the aegis of a neutral facilitator to be agreed upon by the Congolese parties." The first significant outcome of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, after the assassination of Laurent Kabila, was the publishing on 4 May 2001 on a Declaration of Principles, much of which reiterated content already included in the Lusaka agreement.

Sir Ketumile Masire, Botswana's former President was the Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue. He urged the participation of women. The Security Council heard this message directly from the Facilitator. The last sessions of the dialogues were held in December 2001 in Abuja, Nigeria and in October 15-19, 2001 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and again from February to April 19 2002 in Sun City, South Africa. Kofi Annan sent strong messages of encouragement, as did the Security Council.

As the political actors were not able to come to agreement on a durable solution, informal dialogues reconvened in July 2002 under the mediation of President Mbeki and Deputy President Zume of South Africa. The Presidents of DRC and Rwanda seem to have reached a mutual agreement that marks the beginning of the end of war in the DRC.

In August 2002, the UN and South Africa, in cooperation with Masire, established a joint secretariat to work closely together to oversee and verify the implementation of the commitments made by both parties and effectively implement the peace accords.

Women Advocating for Resolution 1325 in the Democratic Republic of Congo

The accomplishments of women in the DRC towards implementation of Resolution 1325 described below have taken place despite huge barriers. Within the government, and among the participants in the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, there is still little awareness about Resolution 1325. There continues to be a serious lack of political will among the principal players in the peace negotiations, for whom the inclusion of women is simply not a priority. In addition to their direct exclusion from the negotiations, Congolese women face other kind of constraints including limited funding, limited access to information, and technological resources, a lack of media coverage, and a lack of dialogue and information sharing among Congolese women, due to tensions between women in government and civil society.

Below is a list, compiled with the help of Aningina Tshetu Bibiane from the DRC, of some of the concrete actions Congolese women have taken to implement Resolution 1325:

1. Women as Partners for Peace in Africa DRC chapter (WOPPA-DRC) and Femmes Afrique Solidarite (FAS) organized the Nairobi Training Workshop to build Congolese women's capacity for and technique of negotiation in preparation for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in Sun City, and to harmonize the views of women from all sides in order to engender the peace process. The organizers distributed Resolution 1325 in pamphlet form to all of the participants (Nairobi, Kenya, 15-19th, February 2002).
(For the Nairobi Declaration, released by the participants of the Workshop, see Annex or go to: <http://www.peacewomen.org/campaigns/featured/drc/NAIROBI%20DEC.html>)
2. Women distributed copies of 1325 and the Nairobi Declaration (See Annex) to all the delegates and experts –both men and women- at the Inter-Congolese dialogue (pamphlets and Nairobi Declaration were placed in every delegate's dossier) (Sun City, South Africa, March-April 2002).
3. Members of the Congolese Women's Caucus, an initiative of the Nairobi Workshop and Nairobi Declaration, participated in a debate on national TV and a debate on a UN radio station called "Dialogue between the Congolese" addressing the contribution of the Congolese Women's Caucus in the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, raising awareness about Resolution 1325, and advocating for the use of 1325 as an instrument for women's participation in the peace process (May-September, 2002, Kinshasa, DRC).
4. The Congolese Coalition of Protestant Women held a 3-day conference about the contribution of women in the peace process, including a workshop about 1325 where they distributed copies of the resolution to all participants (September 2002, Kinshasa, DRC).
5. Based on the demands of women at the grassroots level, Resolution 1325 and the Nairobi Declaration have recently been translated into the four local languages (an initiative of the UN peacekeeping mission in DRC-MONUC -and in collaboration with the DRC Ministry of Culture).
6. WOPPA-DRC wrote to UN agencies, USAID, foreign embassies and other international organizations to request funding to support women's participation at the peace table.
7. Congolese women in collaboration with MONUC gender advisor's office of have had frequent

informal meetings with young women to encourage them to organize and be instruments of change in their communities, and to be part of the peace process.

8. Women and men leaders of civil society, in collaboration with MONUC gender advisor's office, organized a meeting to discuss how to move forward with the peace process and how women and men can work together in partnership (Kinshasa, DRC, August 2002).
See <http://www.peacewomen.org/news/1325News/issue10.html> for more information.

1325 Translated in all Four Local Languages in Democratic Republic of Congo

October 1st, 2002 - At the initiative of the Gender Advisor office of MONUC, the UN Peacekeeping Operation in DRC, and in collaboration with the DRC Ministry of Culture, Resolution 1325 and the Nairobi Declaration (an agenda for peace written by Congolese women who met in Nairobi in February 2002) have just been translated into the four local languages of the DRC. The gender advisor office of MONUC received the translated copies of 1325 and the declaration and began strategizing about how to disseminate the information within DRC.

International Criminal Court

Rome Statute Enters into Force

After obtaining the 60th ratification on April 11, 2002, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) entered into force on July 1, 2002 marking the moment at which the future court's jurisdiction over genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity takes effect. The Rome Statute codifies rape and other forms of sexual and gender violence as among the gravest crimes of concern to the international community. The Rome Statute is also innovative in its attention to the protection and participation of victims and witnesses in the process, its capacity to award reparations and its mandates concerning women and gender expertise in the Court.
<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/july/icctoday.html>

Fair Representation of Women Must Be Taken into Account in ICC Elections

At the first meeting of the ICC Assembly of States Parties Court, delegates adopted a set of rules which ensure that the elections of judges will be the first elections in an international tribunal subject to minimum voting requirements for women. The nomination process opened on 9 September and closes on 30 November with the first elections of judges and the prosecutor scheduled for February 2003. It is expected that the Court will be functioning sometime in mid-2003.

<http://www.ips.org/ips/TVE.NSF/vwTVEbyData/5C3C50DF1894203C80256C2E0014A5FB?OpenDocument>

International Criminal Tribunal For The Former Yugoslavia

First Conviction for Sexual Enslavement Confirmed by Appeals Chamber

On 12 June, the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia issued its confirmation of the Trial Chamber's judgment in The Prosecutor v. Kunarac, Kovac and Vukovic. The judgment in the case which is also known as "Foca" was historic in that it dealt with sexual enslavement for the first time in an international tribunal. The trial chamber judgment also clarified the status of rape as a crime under customary international law.

The decision was issued just months after the release of the judgment of the Women's International War Crimes Tribunal Against Japan's Military Sexual Slavery in December. The judgment of the "people's tribunal" dealt extensively and in detail with the state responsibility of Japan as well as individual criminal responsibility of named defendants for the system of sexual enslavement organized by the Japanese Imperial Army during World War II. It is estimated that more than 200,000 women from throughout Asia were forced into sexual slavery. The post-World War II tribunal established to prosecute war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the war did not address the crimes against the former comfort women.

From April 1992 to February 1993 at least, the area of Foca was the scene of an armed conflict. Non-Serb civilians were killed, raped or otherwise mistreated as a direct consequence of that armed conflict. Kunarac, Kovac and Vukovic also participated in this campaign which sought, inter alia, to rid the area of Foca of its non-Serb inhabitants. One of the targets of the campaign were the Muslim civilians, women in particular. They were detained in various centres where the conditions of hygiene were intolerable and where they were subjected to many acts of physical violence, including multiple rapes.

Southern Africa Development Community

30 Percent of Women into Political Structures by 2005

October 7, 2002 - (PAMBAZUKA NEWS) The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) has planned for a 30 per cent representation of women to be in political and decision-making structures by 2005. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200209300384.html>

World Health Organization

Report Indicates Gender-Related Violence is Global

October 3rd, 2002 - An unprecedented United Nations report on violence and health is expected to be a powerful tool for advocates wishing to improve their nations' responses to domestic and sexual violence with new legislative and health care policies.

<http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm/dyn/aid/1059>

Governments

Afghanistan

Afghanistan was seen by many as an ultimate test case for the implementation of 1325. Though the conflict has been complex and long term the focus on Afghanistan post September 11th 2001 has renewed the international peacebuilding focus on the country. There is commendable work being done on the ground, but the need remains to maintain the commitment of the international community to support Afghanistan's reconstruction and development.

Afghan women, crossing the divides of the conflict, articulated clear recommendations in the Brussels Declaration adopted at the Afghan Women Leader's Summit held from December 4-5, 2001 in Brussels, Belgium. In response to a request from women of Afghanistan for support and solidarity, the European Women's Lobby, Equality Now, V-Day, the Center for Strategic Initiatives of Women, and The Feminist Majority organized the event. The Summit was held at the European Commission in Brussels in collaboration with the Gender Advisor to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and UNIFEM. Fifty Afghan women leaders, broadly representative of women in Afghanistan, took part in the Summit, which aimed to help bring the voices of Afghan women into the current international political discourse, ensuring that their message is heard. Yet, their commitment to participate in the reconstruction process in their country has been thwarted, in large part on account of insufficient resource distribution and insecurity in areas outside Kabul.

http://www.equalitynow.org/afghan_womens_summit/index.html

Call for Support for Women's Ministry of Afghanistan

(January 2002) Despite promises of U.S. and UN support, one month into the six-month term of Afghanistan's interim government, the Women's Ministry, headed by long time women's rights leader Dr. Sima Samar, had been given neither an office nor funding to hire staff or to initiate programs. Women's groups around the world worked to raise awareness and find ways to help the Women's Ministry overcome the obstacles. See <http://capwiz.com/fmf1/issues/alert/?alertid=73281> and <http://capwiz.com/fmf1/issues/alert/?alertid=73973>.

Afghan Commission to Establish Loya Jirga Will Have 3 Women

(January 28, 2002) – Afghanistan's interim government leader, Hamid Karzai, announced that there would be three women in the 21-member commission he selected to help establish the country's Loya Jirga. See <http://www.feminist.org/news/newsbyte/uswirestory.asp?id=6101>

Afghan Women's Ministry Leads International Women's Day Events

(March 7, 2002) - From March 5-7, sixty women participants in the Afghan Women's Consultation held meetings hosted by the Afghan Women's Ministry in cooperation with United Nations agencies and the Afghan Interim Authority.

See <http://www.feminist.org/news/newsbyte/uswirestory.asp?id=6378>

Canada

Gender and Peace Keeping Training Course

23 May 2002 - Members of the Canadian Committee on Women, Peace and Security: Minister Bill Graham announced at a plenary meeting of the Canadian Committee on Women, Peace and Security on 30 April that the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs along with the UK Department

for International Development have developed an online training course on gender for military and civilian personnel involved in peace support operations. The website is <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/genderandpeacekeeping/>.

Egypt

Egypt Hosts Conference on Women's Role in Promoting Peace

September 24, 2002 - Egyptian first lady Suzanne Mubarak opened a three-day conference Saturday in the Egyptian resort of Sharm al-Sheikh on women's role in promoting peace and tolerance. The meeting was criticized, however, for the absence of Israeli participants. To read the message sent by Secretary-General Kofi Annan, go to:

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2002/sgsm8396.doc.htm>

http://www.unfoundation.org/unwire/util/display_stories.asp?objid=29100

Ghana

Two-Day Workshop on the Situation of Women and Children

July 12, 2002 - The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs hosted a two-day workshop on the situation of women and children in the country. The theme of the workshop "Promoting Gender Mainstreaming and Children's Rights Protection in Ghana" had the objective of creating a good working relationship between the ministry and the media to help educate the public on the harm of gender imbalances. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200207090824.html>

Senegal

Women to represent 30% of candidates of the 13 parties in local elections

April 30, 2002 - Women will represent 30% of candidates of the 13 Senegalese political parties during the local elections scheduled for 12 May to elect some 600 regional, municipal, and rural officials. <http://www.famafrique.org/nouv2002/nouv26-04-12a.html>

United Kingdom

British Parliament Passes Bill to Elect More Women

February 14, 2002 - Faced with a shrinking percentage of women in the British Parliament, lawmakers are searching for ways to redress the imbalance. A recent bill would legalize a controversial approach: women-only elections.

<http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=816>

United States

Global Women's Rights Treaty Gets Second Wind

May 15, 2002 - For the first time since 1994, the U.S. Senate planned hearings on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the U.N. global women's treaty which has been ratified by 168 countries since 1979.

<http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm/dyn/aid/908>

U.S. Launches Attack Against World's First Permanent Criminal Court: Seeks Exemptions for Its Military Personnel and Officials

August 2002 – On May 6, 2002, U.S. President George W. Bush officially renounced the U.S. signature of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court which effectively cleared the path for a string of tactics designed to prevent U.S. nationals from coming within the future court's reach. In the wake of the 'unsigned' the treaty, the Bush administration pursued language in Security Council resolutions regarding peacekeeping missions that would exempt U.S. peacekeepers and other U.S. officials and personnel from the ICC's jurisdiction. At the same time, the administration pursued a series of bilateral agreements with individual countries through which other governments agreed not to turn over U.S. nationals or allies to the Court.

On 12 July 2002, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1422 which essentially provided the U.S. government immunities for its personnel taking part in UN-sponsored or authorized peacekeeping missions as well as other military actions sanctioned by the UN for the period of one year. NGO's and others opposed to the U.S. efforts, denounced the Security Council action as illegitimate under the UN Charter and in violation of the ICC Statute. See

http://www.iccnw.org/html/gov_t.html#asp200209

Highlights of Actions and Initiatives of Non-Governmental Organizations and Individuals

Women in Colombia

No Turning Back: WILPF-Colombia Challenges the Colombian Government

March 8, 2002 - On the International Day of the Woman, Patricia Guerrero, Executive-Secretary of WILPF-Colombia, made an intervention concerning state-level implementation of Resolution 1325 before the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights in Bogota. Patricia spoke to the history and mandate of the resolution, and then went on to testify to the implementation over the past two years by parties within Colombia that are bound to implement the resolution. She insisted that the Colombian military spending and conduct, as well as its participation in the transnational arms market, run contrary to the maintenance of women's rights because violence against women in armed conflict is in itself an arms strategy. Colombian women, who have borne the brunt of the conflict by means of forced displacement, domestic abuse and torture, have never had their own experiences and opinions with regard to processes of prevention, reconstruction and rehabilitation taken in to account in high-level peace negotiations. The daily arduous and life-threatening work of WILPF-Colombia to secure the well-being and to affirm the dignity and voices of marginalized and displaced women and children in the cities of Cartagena, Bogota and Cundinamarca is but one testament to the resolve of local Colombian NGOs to implement the resolution, to which they are equally accountable.

See www.peacewomen.org/resources/voices/declar/intervencionporlimpal.html

WILPF Colombia calls for an end to the war

July 25, 2002 - Thousands of women from all corners of Colombia joined by international delegates converged in the capital Bogotá to attend the mass demonstrations for peace and social justice. "We are asking women from around the world to respond in international solidarity and write governmental officials in Colombia to request protection for women during this march.... Please 'hold them in the light' as they take to the streets of Bogota this July 25."

<http://www.peacewomen.org/campaigns/regions/samericarib/peacemarch.html>

East Timor

East Timorese Activist Filomena Barros Reis on a US speaking tour

January 3, 2002 - In February and March 2002, the East Timor Action Network/ U.S. held a national speaking tour with an East Timorese activist FILOMENA BARROS DOS REIS, focusing on justice and women's issues. The tour stressed the need for an international tribunal -- highlighting the fact that the ad hoc Indonesian Human Rights Court will not hear any cases of crimes of violence against women -- and aimed to educate people on issues facing East Timorese women, including meaningful inclusion in political and social processes, domestic violence, and the plight of women still trapped in Indonesian refugee camps.

A Call for Justice in East Timor

May 16, 2002 - Over 125 women representing 14 countries and 22 US states joined with the East Timor Action Network (ETAN) to urge the United Nations Security Council to establish an international tribunal for East Timor. Since 1975 when the Indonesian military illegally invaded and occupied East Timor, the country has witnessed the killing of over 200,000 people, including the brutalization of women via rape, forced marriage, and forced sterilization. (Feminist Daily News Wire) <http://www.feminist.org/news/newsbyte/uswirestory.asp?id=6535>

The Middle East

The Coalition of Women for a Just Peace (Middle East) - Vigils for Peace

Posted December 4, 2001 - The Coalition of Women for a Just Peace organised vigils for peace in 42 cities for December 28, 2001: Adelaide, Vienna, Brussels, Montreal, Cairo, London, Paris, Privas, Aubenas, Hofgeismar, Goettingen, Cologne, Milan, Rome, Naples, Reggio Emilia, Ravenna, Padua, Verona, Torin, Dundee, Belgrade, Stockholm, Tucson, Berkeley, Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Sebastapol, Boulder, Hartford, Washington, DC, Chicago, Boston, St. Louis, Albuquerque, New Paltz, New York City, Philadelphia, Houston, Seattle.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/oldnews/coalition.html>

Stopping the Tanks Rolling in Ramallah

December 23, 2001 – As part of the international solidarity movement Women in Black, women activists removed one of the Israeli roadblocks which prevent Palestinian villagers going to work.

The day before this incident they lay down in front of Israeli tanks rolling down the streets of Ramallah in the West Bank in order to draw attention to the 800 Palestinians killed by Israeli troops during the last year and the occupation of Palestinian land. The tanks stopped at the last minute, after firing shots in the air.

Israel-based Coalition of Women for a Just Peace

June 8, 2002 –The Israel-based Coalition of Women for a Just Peace, which includes Women in Black in Israel, marked 35 years of Israel's occupation of the territories, with a call to end the Occupation and event on June 8 in Israel.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/June/women4peace.html>

Arria Formula Meeting of the UN Security Council and Women from the Middle East

On Tuesday, 7 May 2002 the United Nations Security Council held an Arria Formula meeting requested by Equality Now, an international women's rights organization, with Palestinian Maha Abu-Dayyeh Shamas and Israeli Terry Greenblatt. The two women, accompanied by Gloria Steinem and other supporters, jointly addressed the Security Council urging the immediate deployment of an international peacekeeping force to the region and calling for a greater role for women, and for civil society, in the peace process. Chairing the closed session, the Norwegian Ambassador to the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Ole Peter Kolby, welcomed the initiative, noting that in their extensive recent discussions on the Middle East this was the first opportunity the Security Council had had to hear the views of women from the region.

The meeting was an effort to bring meaning to Security Council Resolution 1325 affirming the importance of equal participation and the full involvement of women in all efforts in the maintenance of peace. Ms. Abu-Dayyeh Shamas and Ms. Greenblatt called for equal (50%) representation of women on all sides in the planned upcoming peace negotiations organized by the so-called Quartet (the United Nations, the European Union, the United States and Russia). The women also urged the Security Council to take the next step and rise to the challenge of creating a means through which women can contribute formally and integrally to Middle East conflict resolution efforts, for example by creating a women's commission of peace activists from both countries and third parties.

Judgment of the Women's International War Crimes Tribunal on Japan's Military Sexual Slavery

On 3 December 2001, the final judgment of the Women's International War Crimes Tribunal on Japan's Military Sexual Slavery was released in a ceremony in The Hague, the Netherlands. The release of the judgment took place a year after the People's Tribunal was convened in Tokyo, Japan, where teams of prosecutors from eight different countries presented their cases against the state of Japan as well as key individuals for violations arising from the system of sexual enslavement of more than 200,000 women from throughout Asia during World War II, commonly referred to as the 'comfort women' system.

At the ceremony in The Hague, former comfort women and country prosecutors assembled to receive the judgment from the panel of four judges who had presided over the case the year before. The judges included the Hon. Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, former judge and president of the ICTY, the Hon. Carmen Argibay, a former judge from Argentina who is currently serving as an ad litem judge at the ICTY, the Hon. Willy Mutunga, a human rights advocate and expert from Kenya, and the Hon. Christine Chinkin, an international law scholar from the U.K.

The Women's Caucus assisted the local host in the planning and coordination of the event and served as a liaison between the convenor organizations which included, the Korean Council, Violence Against Women in War Network – Japan, and the Asian Centre for Women's Human Rights based in the Philippines.

For more information see: <http://www.iccwomen.org/tokyo/index.htm>

Women, Peace Building and Constitution-Making

The International Centre for Ethnic Studies hosted an International Conference on 'Women, Peace Building and Constitution Making' in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 2– 5 May 2002:

The conference drew women activists from conflict areas including Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan, the Middle East, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Guatemala and Northern Ireland. It also drew leading academics and specialists who have researched the theme of women and peace. The conference sought to create a platform for the sharing of experiences and

strategies amongst women, who are either experts in the subject, and/or have played an active role in the peace building and constitution making process of their respective countries. The objectives of the conference were:

- To identify and articulate the effect of war on women and the gender specific needs of women during times of war.
- To contribute to an understanding of women's roles in peace building and constitution making;
- To develop strategies for supporting, developing and enhancing women's peace building and constitution making capacities at multiple levels; and
- To improve the cross-regional and cross-cultural exchange on the subject.

The International Centre for Ethnic Studies firmly believes that the further inclusion of women in the peace building and constitution making process in Sri Lanka holds potential for achieving peace and reconciliation in the context of its own protracted ethnic conflict. With this in mind, this conference will bring together women from all walks of life in Sri Lanka, ranging from academics, to officials in government ministries, to women peace workers at the grassroots level. It is hoped that this conference will enrich and invigorate their own work, while laying the foundation for the creation of an international network of women who are committed to working on issues of peace building and constitutional reform. (See Annex for a series of recommendations from women's organizations in Sri Lanka for the peace undertaken between the Sri Lankan government and the LTTE with the Norwegian government.)

Dialogue between Academics, Activists and UN Officials

April 11, 2002 – Security Council Resolution 1325 has sparked many conversations, meetings and publications. The UN Office of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom organized a day of conversation that was held at UN HQ on April 11, 2002, bringing together academics, activists and UN officials focused on the interpretation and implementation of this resolution. A celebratory mood was already in the air on that Thursday morning as the official depositing of the 60th ratification of the International Criminal Court occurred. Conference Room 4 of the United Nations was filled, on April 11th, with students from Columbia, Fordham, New York University, New School University, Queens College, CUNY, Hunter College, Baruch College, Rutgers University, Jay John College and Brooklyn College. Participants of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Prepcom and individuals from various UN departments such as DPKO, DAW, and DPA were present. The morning session on Women, Peace and Security highlighted the importance of gender becoming not just an occasional issue, but a routine component of all processes and institutions of the UN, academia and activist efforts. The panelists all brought to the table a different way to pursue this. Participants in this discussion included Ann Tickner, from Center for International Studies at the University of Southern California; Jane Connors of the UN's Division for the Advancement of Women; Cynthia Enloe, feminist scholar. The afternoon session devoted to disarmament and focused on the strengths women can bring to disarmament issues. Discussants included Betty Reardon, peace activist and scholar; Rebecca Johnson, Acronym Institute; Carol Cohn, from Wellesley College. Later in the day, a panel was devoted to discussion of the International Criminal Court, the treaty of which had entered into force on this day, and feminist approaches to international justice. Participants included, Rhonda Copelon, Professor and Director of the International Women's Human Rights Law Clinic at the City University of New York School of Law; Maria Solis, lawyer and journalist from Guatemala; and Pam Spees, Program Director of the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice.

The dialogue and exchange between the panelists and the audience, many of whom proved to have significant expertise and insights, was a key part of the day.

The audience played an extremely important role by bringing to the discussion of gender, issues of power distribution, race, and North versus South.

Justice and Accountability and the ICC Justice and Accountability Conference

In conjunction with the release of the Tokyo Tribunal judgment, the Women's Caucus co-organized a conference on Justice and Accountability which was intended to look at many of the pressing international legal issues facing the international community in the wake of September 11th. The conference was held from 4-6 December 2001 in The Hague and drew approximately 80 participants from different parts of the world, including many conflict areas. Some participants came from Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan, Yugoslavia and Sri Lanka.

The conference included panels which focused on issues related to fundamentalisms and women's human rights, the state of international law in the wake of September 11th, reparations and assistance to victims with links to the history of the former comfort women, among others. ICC Entry Into Force Discussion

The Women's Caucus for Gender Justice hosted a panel discussion and brainstorming session entitled, "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About the International Criminal Court But Didn't Have Time To Ask," on 1 July 2002, the day the ICC Statute entered into force.

Participants on the first panel included: Rhonda Copelon, Director of the International Women's Human Rights Law Clinic and Legal Advisor to the Women's Caucus; Sindi Medar-Gould, Executive Director of Baobab for Women's Human Rights in Nigeria; Arline Pacht of the International Association of Women Judges; and Jayne Stoyles, Program Director of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court. The panel was moderated by Pam Spees, Program Director of the Women's Caucus. The participants discussed the current status and timeline for the establishment of the ICC and work being done at international, regional and national levels.

Participants in the brainstorming session included: Charlotte Bunch, Director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership; Isha Dyfan, Program Director of the Human Security and Peacebuilding Program of the International Women's Tribune Centre; Merav Datan, Director of the UN Office of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; and Kathy Hall-Martinez, of the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy. The panel was moderated by Maria Solis, of the Myrna Mack Foundation and La Cuerda in Guatemala. Panelists discussed ways in which the ICC is relevant to their work in the arenas of women's human rights, reproductive rights, disarmament and gendermainstreaming in peace processes. They identified obstacles and strategies to incorporating work around the ICC other mechanisms of accountability at the international level more fully into the advocacy and raised questions about future strategies.

A report will be issued based on the discussions at the event and will be made available through the Caucus website, www.iccwomen.org.

Women on the Court Now!

In September, the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice launched the 'Women on the Court Now!' campaign to raise awareness about the imminent establishment of the International Criminal Court and the first elections of judges and prosecutor. The record of women in different legal institutions at the international level has been dismal. Currently, there is only one woman judge serving at both the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Three women are serving on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and no women are serving on the 21-member International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. Further, the recently released list of candidates for election to the ICJ does not contain even one-woman candidate. The ICC will be the first international institution of the 21st century, indeed of the new millennium, established by multi-lateral treaty and is the first of its kind. It is time, finally, that women are accorded a presence in such institutions on an equitable footing. In order to help raise awareness among women's groups of the need to impact the nomination processes at the international level, the Women's Caucus developed a webpage dedicated to tracking the nomination process and which provides a series of informational materials and tools. In addition, the Women's Caucus has circulated a series of campaign communiqués via email to provide updates about the nomination process and strategies and obstacles.

The nomination period closes on November 2002 and the first elections of the judges and prosecutor will be held in February 2003.

AWID's 9th International Forum

With some 1,300 attending from 105 countries around the globe, the Ninth Forum of the Association of Women's Rights in Development, which was held from 3-6 October 2002 in Guadalajara, Mexico, provided the setting for unparalleled opportunities to develop strategies, share ideas, build skills and provide support for all to advance gender equality and social justice. The forum centered around the theme "How can we reinvent globalization to further the rights of all women?" The workshops and plenaries considered not only the economic, but also the political, social, ecological and cultural implications of globalization. Together participants strategized for viable alternatives to the unsustainable, undemocratic and exploitative forms of globalization. We launched the "Globalize

This! Women's Rights in Development Campaign" and more than anything reinforced global solidarity for economic justice and women's rights.

During more than 150 content-rich workshops, plenaries, skills-building sessions and debates, participants analyzed current approaches to economic and political change, and strategized on how to ensure their ideas are translated into concrete actions in the years to come. The conference organizers sought to look at globalization through feminist eyes and engage in thought-provoking debates.

The AWID Forum focused on five cross-cutting themes that reflect some of the most urgent issues for women's rights and social justice today including: women's rights and economic change, young women and leadership, gender equality and new technologies, feminist organizational development, and women's rights and the new global order. At the end of the Forum, a statement against the U.S.-led military invasion of Iraq was issued for supporters to sign on. (See Annex for a copy of the AWID statement)

World Women's Security Council

September 15, 2002 - On the occasion of the anniversary of the terror attacks of 11 September, a "World Women's Security Council in Foundation" was announced at an international conference in Berlin. At the end of the conference, which was organized Heinrich Boell Foundation and Women's Action Sheherazade, all 60 participants from Germany, Afghanistan, Iran, Slovenia, South Africa, Sierra Leone, Israel, Palestine and other countries voted unanimously for its foundation.

The participants denounced the fact that wars are plotted over their heads – inside or outside the UN Security Council – and the fact that male diplomats and military officials dare to decide the world's fate. They proclaimed the need for a new concept of security policy that was not based on the imagined security needs of nations but on the real security needs of living people. As the former women's minister of Afghanistan, Dr. Sima Samar, who supports the idea of a "World Women's Security Council", said during the conference: "Security is the first priority of women in Afghanistan. For true freedom in Afghanistan, security is essential. Without security, no human being can be free. Only with security can we win the restoration of women's rights, peace and democracy. At the same time, security is not possible without women's rights. They go hand in hand."

The participants of the conference agreed that the World Women's Security Council should be established as an NGO and not as an additional UN body. Within the structure of UN hierarchy and its diplomatic and qualified language it would not be able to fulfill one of its most important tasks: the critical monitoring of the UN Security Council.

Another task of the World Women's Security Council would lie in the organisation of future workshops that would offer women from conflict regions a space to reflect and envision future forms of civil life. A third task would be to create international awareness for the persistent - as well as persistently ignored - peace work of many NGO's. The initiators of Women's Action Sheherazade suggested that female writers, artists and scientists would be invited as spokeswomen of the World Women's Security Council. Other participants referred to the already existing model of an African World Women's Security Council, the "African Women Committee for Peace and Development" made up of five women from governments, five from NGO's, and five women known for their peacekeeping work. For further information see www.women-security-council.org and www.glow-boell.de, key word 'conference'.

Activities and Initiatives of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security

With the adoption of Resolution 1325 in October 2000, the group continues to work towards its implementation and to monitor and raise its profile among policy makers and practitioners worldwide. It is now seeking further funding to support the continuation of its collaborative and effective work.

The role of NGOs in the buildup to the passing of Security Council Resolution 1325 was critical. Since 1998 when the Commission on the Status of Women reviewed the chapter in the Beijing Platform for Action on Women in Armed Conflict, the women's peace community has been working together to advocate for women to be recognized in peace and security policies and to participate as equals in processes that lead to peace in the international community and their own societies.

Key areas of activity of the working group include:

- Targeted interventions to promote 1325 and undertake advocacy and activities for its implementation and monitoring;
- Identifying and promoting recommendations and mechanisms to ensure the implementation of 1325;
- Lobbying Security Council members to ensure that gender concerns are reflected in relevant agenda items and decision-making;
- Promoting and facilitating 'Arria Formulas' where women from areas of conflict provide direct input to the Security Council;
- Creating a database of strong partners in each region and integrate their input into the UN system;
- Assessing progress of key UN institutions in integrating gender into their agendas, priorities, policies and programs;
- Monitoring and reporting on financial contributions to gender components of projects and programs;
- Promoting effective implementation of relevant clauses of the International Criminal Court;
- Monitoring the integration of gender in peace support operations and accountability of peacekeepers and recommend appropriate strategies and action;
- Organizing events (seminars, roundtables, trainings, etc) to continually promote women, peace and security issues; and
- Collaborating closely with women's organizations in the field to build a bridge between their work and the United Nations.

Activities and Initiatives in 2002 include:

Commission on the Status of Women

At the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March 2002, the Working Group and member organizations held 12 events to raise awareness and develop strategies on issues in 1325. These included panels on gender equality and refugee settings, gender and peace support operations, media perspectives on women, peace and security, war widows, discussions on rape as a weapon in war, gender justice and the training of over 100 CSW delegates on the implementation of 1325. In addition, the Working Group facilitated meetings between high-level UN officials and women from Afghanistan, East Timor, Nepal and the African Women's Caucus. Five thousand copies of a brochure on 1325 and its relation to the themes of the CSW - poverty and environmental degradation, were also distributed.

A reception in April 2002, which brought together academics, activists and UN officials to foster communication and exchange on women and peace, gender justice, disarmament, and other issues related to 1325. It also provided an opportunity to celebrate the ratification of the International Criminal Court.

Continuing to push for the participation of women's organizations and concerns in Security Council Visits.

The group brought together UN officials, women's organizations media, and mission staff to ensure women's input into the Security Council visit to signatory countries of the Lusaka accords in April 2002. A report on this process was widely distributed which outlined recommendations and mechanisms to ensure women's participation in future visits.

Developing strategies with other NGOs, missions and UN personnel to effectively mainstreaming gender in the Department of Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO).

Information has been gathered from women on the ground and UN officials to show the potential impact of a gender unit at DPKO and the group has begun mobilizing NGOs to push for financial allocations to make this unit a reality, as mandated by Resolution 1325. A member of the advisory panel for the development of the Secretary General's report on Women, Peace and Security, as well as giving ongoing input to the UNIFEM independent expert report on the same subject.

Arria Formula Meeting, October 2001

November 3, 2001 New York, United Nations - Women peace leaders from Afghanistan, Kosovo and

East Timor today spoke to Security Council Members about violations committed against women during and after war and women's role in peace negotiations and peace-keeping efforts. International experts Elisabeth Rehn, former UN Under-Secretary General, and Maha Muna from the NGO Working Group on Women, International Peace and Security also addressed Council Members at the meeting in New York. <http://www.peacewomen.org/news/oldnews/scwomen.html>

Arria Formula Meeting, 23 October 2002

On October 23, 2002, the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security again met with the UN Security Council in an Arria Formula Meeting. The Council heard statements from women from Uganda and Burundi in addition to a statement by the NGO Working Group presented by Indira Kajosevic, working group coordinator. The statements are available at <http://www.peacewomen.org>. Prior to the meeting with Council members, the NGO Working Group held a press conference at the United Nations which was hosted by the government of Chile. The Press Conference has been re-broadcast in its entirety on FIRE (Feminist International Radio Endeavor) at www.fire.or.cr.

NGO Working Group Roundtable Discussion

July 25, 2002 - The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security held a roundtable discussion on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325. The importance of collaboration between NGOs and amplifying the voices of women into international discussions was indicated. The NGO Working Group will continue working towards a gender unit at the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) until they are successful.

Member Activities*

Hague Appeal for Peace

The Hague Appeal for Peace has printed and distributed thousands of copies of Security Resolution on behalf of the Working Group. In addition, the Hague Appeal for Peace published the pamphlet, "Building a Women's Peace Agenda" which is based on discussions at the May 1999 Hague Appeal for Peace Conference.

The Hague Appeal for Peace has published a manual for teachers, "Learning to Abolish War: Teaching Toward a Culture of Peace" in which gender equality and sensitivity are part of the definition of democracy and 1325 is included as a teaching tool. Peace Education is a participatory approach which prepares people for active engagement in democracy and includes understanding of disarmament, gender equality, human rights, protection for the environment, and non violence.

'Necessary Targets' and Panel Discussion on Resolution 1325

March 10, 2002 - Following a performance of "Necessary Targets" at the Variety Arts Theater, a riveting play by Eve Ensler, about "violence aimed at women as an act of war," Hague Appeal for Peace co-founder Cora Weiss led a panel discussion on resolution 1325 and its relevance to the play. Copies of the resolution were distributed to the audience. The panel was entitled "No Women, No Peace," and included former Bangladesh Ambassador, Anwarul Chowdhury; Anne S. Walker, Executive Director, International Women's Tribune Centre; Shirley Knight, Broadway and TV star who played a lead role in the play, and activists from Afghanistan and Serbia.

UN NGO/DPI Conference: No Women, No Peace

On 11 September 2002, Cora Weiss, Hague Appeal for Peace President, presented a statement at The United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations/Department of Public Information Annual Conference entitled "No Women, No Peace." (See Annex for full text of statement).

International Alert

International Alert (IA) has continued the second phase of its' Women Building Peace Campaign over the past year through a national/regional Gender Peace Audit project and global policy work.

International Gender Peace Audit – 1325 in Practice

The Gender Peace Audit has focused on specific countries and regions over the past year - Nepal the Caucasus and Nigeria - examining the contextual situation of security and peacebuilding for women's and human rights organizations in these countries and facilitating the development of recommendations on how 1325 could potentially be used as an advocacy tool in these country and regional contexts.

From this work IA has produced three policy feasibility studies for Nepal, Nigeria and the Caucasus mapping and examining issues relating to women peace and security in each country or regional context (available on request from njohnston@international-alert.org)

National/Regional Consultations on 1325

IA has organized and facilitated with local partners three consultations on Women, Peace and Security in:

- Nepal (January/February 2002)
- Caucasus (held in Russia in March 2002)
- Nigeria (August 2002)

Three reports have been produced from each of these consultations (available on request from: njohnston@international-alert.org).

A follow-up regional consultation for Asia is being planned at time of writing for early 2003 to be held in Thailand. Activities have continued at a national, regional and international level as outcomes from these consultations. IA has been responsible for the international follow-up of issues raised at the consultations and local partners have been responsible for facilitating activities in their countries and regions. As an outcome of the Nepal consultation IA is also developing a broader Asia program with specific focus on the current situation in Nepal.

IA also co-facilitated with WILPF a consultation on 1325 in March 2002 organized by The Urgent Action Fund, and facilitated a training in July 2002 on international standards for empowerment in a conference organized by ISIS WICCE for a group of international participants. A report has been produced from this consultation.

IA's Great Lakes Women's Peace Program have produced a report based on a workshop held in the region: Conflict Transformation in Africa: African Women's Perspectives. This exists in both French and English translation (available on request from lhucks@international-alert.org or in pdf format at www.international-alert.org).

Over 2001/2002 IA has developed an analytical framework for better understanding women's peacebuilding know how. This has been used as a tool for women to analyze the peacebuilding work they do and the motivations for getting involved, as well as looking for ways to improve and share what they do. In follow up to this a Know How Sharing Conference is being planned for the 5th-8th of November for IA's partners to share what they do as peacebuilders and learn from each other. This will be held in Oxford U.K. A publication will be produced which documents all of this work early 2003.

Global Policy Work on Women, Peace & Security

IA's global policy work focuses on cross-cutting global issues relating to Women, Peace and Security. Over the past year the two cross-cutting issues have been: Gender and Peace Support Operations and Gender and Conflict Early Warning. Since October 2001 IA has produced two indepth

research framework publications titled:

- Gender and Conflict Early Warning: A Framework for Action – June 2002
- Gender Mainstreaming in Peace Support Operations: Moving Beyond Rhetoric to Practice – July 2002 (www.womenbuildingpeace.org)

These and previous resources and publications produced have formed the basis for policy and practice related meetings with relevant UN institutions, EU institutions, Member state missions, I/NGOs, military institutions and community based organizations. Recommendations have been developed and shared in such forums and policy/practice workshops and meetings.

IA participated and provided inputs on gender and peacekeeping for the DFAIT gender awareness training in Ottawa in March 2002.

European Initiatives

In March 2002 at the Commission on the Status of Women IA organized two panel discussions on Gender and Peace Support Operations and Gender and Conflict Prevention and one workshop on Gender and Conflict Early Warning. As a member of the NGO Working Group on Women Peace and Security IA also provided training for over 100 participants at the CSW on gender and peacekeeping

aspects of Resolution 1325, as well as organizing a panel discussion on Women, Peace and Security and providing inputs on Women in the Media from the Nepal context through our partner from IHRICON.

In May 2002 IA organized a European NGO coalition meeting in follow up to the European Parliament Resolution on Human Rights: Women in Afghanistan. This was done together with European Centre for Common Ground and APRODEV. An Interagency Forum meeting in the European Parliament was also organized jointly by IA and ECCG on Women, Conflict Prevention and Resolution: The role for the European Union. IA subsequently held several bi-lateral meetings with NATO to discuss recommendations relating to gender and peacekeeping.

In June 2001 IA produced an Inventory of Women and Conflict Prevention initiatives for the Council of Europe. This was used by the Council for an inter-governmental meeting on Gender in June 2002. Prior to this in Brussels in December 2001 IA participated as a supporting organization in the Afghan Women Leaders Summit organized by Equality Now at the European Parliament. A supporting Parliamentary Resolution: Human Rights: Women in Afghanistan was produced based on the outcomes of the summit.

In March 2002 IA conducted a consultancy for the Dutch government on Women, Conflict, Peacebuilding and institutional mainstreaming.

At the invitation of the U.K Foreign and Commonwealth Office, IA has been working on inputs relating to the implementation of Resolution 1325 for the U.K presidency of the Security Council in July 2002. This culminated in the open debate on Gender and Peacekeeping on July 25th. IA's Women Building Peace Program has also launched its own website in 2002 giving greater detail of our gender peace audit and global policy work (www.womenbuildingpeace.org).

IA Involvement with NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security

As a member of the NGO Working Group on Women Peace and Security (NGOWG), IA has supported the interface between local women's organizations in the Great Lakes region and the Security Council Mission to the Great Lakes through the U.K chair (May 2002). A report was produced by the NGOWG covering efforts made. IA has participated as a member of the advisory group in the development of the Secretary General's report on Women Peace and Security and been requested to participate in the development of recommendations for the parallel UNIFEM report. See www.womenbuildingpeace.org for more information.

International Women's Tribune Centre

Under IWTC's program area "Human Rights, Human Security, Women in the Peace Building process", IWTC has designed its work to engage the expertise and out reach of the global women's information and media networks to build pro-active information chains to support women in conflict zones using UNSC resolution 1325.

A panel discussion organized by IWTC during the 46th session of The Commission on the Status of Women on March 7, 2001 in New York, entitled "Women's Media strategies for Peace" was IWTC's first step toward designing a multi-phased, multi-media communications strategy for the promotion of Resolution 1325. The event brought together over thirty media women, media and communication experts, practitioners, and policy makers who identified key ways of attracting visibility of media and other information and communications outlets to promote resolution 1325, defined approaches and methods for popularizing the message in Resolution 1325 for women on the ground, and shared good practices for future work in this area.

The Know How Conference on the World of Women's Information was held in Kampala Uganda on 23 July 2002. IWTC used this opportunity to build on the meeting in March 2002 and to expand the constituency and ideas. IWTC organized a workshop entitled "Information in the Peace Building and Reconstruction Process: Needs and Initiatives" which looked at ways of creating information pipelines for women caught in conflict, documenting violations against women in conflict, and determining the radio's role in peace building. The outcomes of the workshop were: It created a media women's group working on implementation of resolution 1325 from an information and communications perspective; The group will pursue a discussions on recommending the appointment of a rapporteur on media and war situations while making key interventions and provide feed back into Security Council's work.

ISIS WICCE International Exchange Program Institute Kampala Uganda was held on 30 July 2002. IWTC provided part of an advocacy training on implementation of 1325 at international and national levels through case studies. Over forty participants attended the institute worldwide.

On August 1, 2002 in Kenya IWTC brought together a group of peace and media NGOs, to plan a national training on resolution 1325 at the end of this year as part of its larger media strategy. Global Nets is IWTC's electronic outreach to more than 2,500 individuals and groups world-wide. IWTC devoted six issues to women, armed conflict, and peace.

An occasional Journal of IWTC "The Tribune" which has a readership of fifteen thousand individuals and groups globally will be on the theme "women, war and peace" showcasing Resolution 1325 as one of the achievements for women and peace in the new century. The Journal will be published in October 2002. See www.iwtc.org for more information.

The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children

The Women's Commission's mandate is to advocate for the rights and needs of refugee, returnee and internally displaced women, adolescents and children. In implementing Resolution 1325 the organization emphasizes the need to include war-affected women as decisionmakers well before allocating seats at the peace table. For example, including women in distribution of humanitarian assistance in internally displaced and refugee camps reduces the likelihood of their exploitation. Supporting the activities of local women's groups, many of them established in refugee camps and exile settings, is key to building capacity of civil society when they are free to return home and rebuild their communities. Women also gain leadership skills through their positions as directors of local groups. Ensuring that internally displaced women have sufficient information and can vote in national elections, is a step toward holding governments accountable to their needs. Following are some examples of Women's Commission activities in relation to implementation of UN SC Res 1325:

1. Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programs (Article 13). Women's Commission Protection Partner in Sierra Leone researched and documented gaps in the national program and support provided by the international community regarding the special needs of girls who are not ex-combatants yet part of the war camp. The Women's Commission found lack of attention to the special needs of thousands of girls who were abducted and forcibly married to combatants as bushwives and bore their children during the civil war. When the conflict ended, they were ostracized from their communities, labeled as sympathizers with the rebels, and lacked skills and education to support themselves and their children. From November 2001, the Women's Commission has pressed the Sierra Leone government, international agencies including the United Nations, and donor governments, to ensure that the DDR program is adjusted to meet the needs of ex-combatant as well as non ex-combatant girls. There have been positive developments as some agencies are introducing new programs and seeking solutions on how to better support these girls. Women's Commission is continuing to monitor the situation and uses it as an example of a gap in Resolution 1325.
2. Special needs of women and girls during repatriation, resettlement, reintegration and postconflict reconstruction. (Article 8)
 - In May 2002, the Women's Commission monitored the participation of internally displaced Sierra Leonean women in the national elections. A report on the process including what women voted for and why, has been distributed to Sierra Leone Members of Parliament and local and international agencies to highlight how to engage displaced women in such elections and articulate the reasons why women voted. The report is being used as a benchmark for follow up with the Government of Sierra Leone to reinforce accountability in meeting the needs of these women voters.
 - In October 2002 the Women's Commission hosted a roundtable between 15 women from the Government of Afghanistan (representing a wide range of ministries), international NGOs and UNOCHA to encourage dialogue on how international NGOs and the Afghan government can work in closer partnership to advance the reconstruction of Afghanistan, and engage the participation of Afghan women.
 - In July 2002 a photo essay was posted to our website on the needs of returnees in Kabul, Afghanistan and the increased protection problems of widows and other Afghan refugees remaining in Pakistan which are being neglected as the focus turns to Afghanistan.
 - Throughout 2002 the Women's Commission held a series of meetings with US- based women's rights and human rights groups, UNIFEM and others to compare notes and strategize on ways to collaboratively support the participation of Afghan women, and support women's leadership, in the reconstruction and post conflict phase.

- In October 2001 the Women's Commission distributed a paper to donors and international humanitarian assistance agencies identifying local Afghan women's groups that were key providers of humanitarian assistance and support to communities in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Based on the work of our Peshawar field office, which has been supporting these groups for several years, the paper suggests ways to further support the activities of Afghan women's groups financially and programatically. The Women's Commission continues to update the international community on the needs of these groups as many of them are continuing operations in Pakistan, and reviving operations in Afghanistan to meet the needs of repatriating refugees and be full partners in the post-conflict reconstruction process.

3. All parties take special measures to protect women and girls from gender based violence (Article 10) and all parties to armed conflict respect the civilian nature of refugee camps (Article 12). For several years, the Women's Commission has been pressing for an end to Uganda's civil war. In October 2002 Ms. Angelina Atyam addressed the UN Security Council on the lack of protection given to young Ugandan girls who are being abducted by the Lords Resistance Army, a local rebel group. In-depth research by the Women's Commission with war-affected youth in North Uganda (2002) has been followed up with intense advocacy to engage the US and other governments in pressuring Uganda to seek a peaceful solution to the 17-year crisis. The Uganda situation calls attention to the needs of refugee as well as internally-displaced women and girls and the need for the Security Council to take actions in areas beyond those that have the presence of peacekeepers.

4. Increased voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training including those undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Article 7). For ten years the Women's Commission has been monitoring UNHCR's guidelines on the protection of women and girls. In May 2002, the organization released a report assessing UNHCR's policy and guidelines on the protection of Refugee Women. The assessment is based on interviews with refugees and UNHCR staff in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Pakistan and Zambia, as well as headquarters in Geneva. The assessment considers how the agency's policy, guidelines and training have served as tools for gender sensitivity, includes lessons learned from the field in mainstreaming gender and protection, and recommends ways to move forward including the need for funding, in addressing the needs of refugee, returnee and internally displaced women and girls worldwide.

Further information on the activities of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children is available on the web: www.womenscommission.org, or telephone in New York, USA: 212-551-3111.

PeaceWomen.org

The PeaceWomen website, an initiative of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, continues to grow, providing a large database of women's peace organizations throughout the world, an annotated bibliography on women, war and peace, as well as a bi-monthly newsletter. The 1325 PeaceWomen E-News, starting in May of 2002, is a publication designed to provide a wide range of women's voices on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325.

The PeaceWomen team describe current efforts of women on the ground, the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), Office of the Special Advisor on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Friends of Women, Peace and Security, Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), and other relevant sources.

The 1325 news service will raise the visibility, maintain the momentum and keep all relevant parties informed of others' endeavors. The hundreds of subscribed members are encouraged to contribute any relevant information, events, or documents specifically related to Security Council Resolution 1325.

Chronological List of Other News and Highlights Relating to Women's Activisms

October 2001 – October 2002: Women and Children in Armed Conflict" Meeting in Kinshasa

14 - 16 November 2001 - A subregional conference on the protection of women and children in armed conflict in central Africa took place in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Report of the Subregional Conference on the Protection of Women and Children in Armed Conflict in Central Africa, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo is available at:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N01/680/34/PDF/N0168034.pdf?OpenElement>

Who's Afraid of the Women in Black?

November 26, 2001 - Women in Black, a movement of international peace activists, is one of the latest targets in the FBI's witch hunt. The FBI has classified Women in Black as a potential terrorist organization for being "anti-American," and has threatened members with a grand jury investigation, according to London-based newspaper the Guardian. (By Paulette Chu - Daily Texan Columnist) http://www.peacewomen.org/news/oldnews/Women_Black-2.html

Women for Afghan Women

November 29-30, 2001 – A two-day conference in New York, "Afghan Women: Securing Our Future", the debut event of Women for Afghan Women, showcased the voices of Afghan women leaders in finding just and meaningful solutions for their nation and the world. The conference traced the history of women's rights and roles in Afghanistan for the past thirty years, examined the crisis in governance and human rights in Afghanistan, and brought together key voices to put forward realistic and visionary solutions for post-war Afghanistan.

<http://www.womenforafghanwomen.org>

ICRC Roundtable on Women and Armed Conflict

December 13, 2001 - Eleven prominent members of civil society, representing different communities - Kosovo Albanian, Serb, Bosniac and Ashkali - met to air their views and exchange ideas on the theme "Women as positive actors in defusing violence and preventing armed conflict"<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/oldnews/icrc.html>

Women Energizing Mexico's Election Season

January 25, 2002 - Women in Mexico are seeking to take charge as political changes sweep the nation, running for top offices, talking about forming their own parties and openly campaigning for women's rights. <http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=793>

Women Exchanging Burkhas for Coats

February 10, 2002 – Women in the Afghan capital, Kabul began exchanging their all-encompassing burkhas for long coats as part of a project being run by an Afghan women's NGO. See http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=20510&SelectRegion=Central_Asia&SelectCountry=AFGHANISTAN

800 Events Promote V-Day from Antarctica to Zaire

February 14, 2002 – As part of a broad effort to fund shelters, anti-rape campaigns and women's center, including a communications center for the new Ministry of Womens Affairs in Afghanistan, the creator of the "The Vagina Monologues," Eve Ensler coordinated an effort around the U.S. television premier of the world-renowned play on the occasion of V-Day.

<http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=815>

CONGO: Women want to be represented in decision-making

Brazzaville, 8 March (IPS)- Three days before the upcoming presidential elections, Congolese women met to denounce their weak representation in decision-making. "Forty years after independence, " according to Josephine Ntsika, the coordinator for the Committee on Action for Equality (CAP), "decision-makers have not yet applied the fundamental rights of women in decisionmaking, despite the ratification in July 1986 of CEDAW." It was in 1975 that the first woman minister was named in the Republic of Congo. Since, the number of women in the government has not surpassed four. The current government has only 2 women compared to 25 men.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/march/drcwomen.html>

Central African Republic: Call for a greater role for women

Nairobi, 8 March (IRIN) A seminar on women and local governance organized to reinforce women's

roles in political and economic development was held this week in Bangui. Women from Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Gabon, Mali and the Republic of Congo discussed several themes: women and the municipal world; women and local politics; women and local entrepreneurship; women in the fight against poverty; and women and local administration.

International Consultative Meeting on United Nations Resolution 1325

25-26 March 2002 – A regional consultation on UN Resolution 1325 was held in Kampala Uganda on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th March 2002. The meeting was organised by Betty Murungi, director of the Africa office of Urgent Action Fund, in collaboration with Isha Dyfan of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). The event was hosted by Kituo Cha Katiba, the Ugandan-based East African Centre for Constitutional Development. The meeting was facilitated by WILPF and International Alert. A report of the meeting can be found at the following website: <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ngo/ngopub/kampala.html>.

The meeting brought together 21 participants comprised of peace, refugee and human rights activists from Zanzibar, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, New South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Also represented were NGO leaders, the media and representatives of legal and health institutions from the region. Three international organisations working within Africa were also represented.

International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament

24 May 2002 - Isis-Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE) joins women who network for peace and justice all over the world to celebrate this day and reflect on its implications: "We commend our government on the efforts it has made towards disarmament in the country, and for being part of the International Action Network on Small Arms to control the flow of small arms, as well as create awareness about their dangers."
<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/may/May24.html>

WILPF US Issues Urgent Plea For Peace in the Middle East

June 27, 2002 - Non-violent Action in Response to President Bush's speech: The urgency of the situation in the Middle East propels Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) to speak out for peace and justice in that region.
<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/June/middleeast.html>

Security Council Open Session on Conflict, Peacekeeping, and Gender

July 25, 2002 - Under the United Kingdom Presidency, an open session on Conflict, Peacekeeping and Gender was held on July 25, 2002. Ambassador Greenstock of the UK held a meeting earlier in the week with representatives of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, at which he invited them to raise issues of importance to their organizations that are relevant to the open meeting discussion. At the open session, Ambassador Greenstock said, "I can say that the exchange that I had with the working group was very informative. These groups have done enormous amount of work on the mainstreaming agenda, on the issue of women and families in areas of conflict".
<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/genderandpeacekeeping2002/genderconflictpeacekeeping.html>

South Korea Parliament Rejects First Female Prime Minister

July 31, 2002 SEOUL (Reuters) - South Korean lawmakers vetoed the country's first female prime minister on Wednesday, dealing a blow to President Kim Dae-jung, who had nominated her to boost his beleaguered government's image in an election year.
<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/july/korea.html>

America Forced Me Out, Says Robinson

July 31, 2002 - Oliver Burkeman -The Guardian - The UN's outgoing human rights commissioner, Mary Robinson, says she was prevented from continuing in the job because of pressure from the US, which she has accused of neglecting human rights during the war against terrorism.
<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/july/robinson.html>

Atrocities against Women Widespread in Congo War

August 22, 2002 - The first comprehensive report on the rape and abuse of women during Africa's widest war finds that all sides used brutal violence against civilian women as a military tactic. See <http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=1014>

Women Aim to Increase Role as Global Peacemakers

September 9, 2002 - Women unite at a UN Conference Global Peace Initiative of Women Religious and Spiritual Leaders that might alter the role of women as peacemakers. The Christian Science Monitor considers the UN conference "the latest in a series of moves to shatter the glass ceiling for women in conflict resolution."

<http://www.globalpolicy.org/ngos/role/globdem/globgov/2002/0909women.htm>

An Era of Women Leaders Ends at the U.N.

September 13, 2002 - The 1990s saw a record number of U.N. agencies led by women. But when Mary Robinson stepped down as high commissioner for human rights yesterday, the decade of women leaders came to a close. Also, several women gained momentum in Tuesday's US primaries.

<http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=1036>

Leifr Eiriksson Peace Award to US Congresswoman Barbara Lee

September 14, 2002 - Reykjavik, ICELAND - The Leifr Eiriksson Peace Award 2002 goes to US Congresswoman Barbara Lee "for her sincere and honest dedication to world peace and in particular for her foresight and courageous vote in the US Congress a year ago today" (against a U.S. military response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001).

Nigeria: Women's Groups Oppose Repression

September 19, 2002 - A coalition of leading women's groups has issued an 11-point declaration demanding an end to political repression, environmental degradation, and gender-based persecution.

http://www.civicus.org/main/server_navigation/skeletons/Civicus_01/framework/navigation.cfm?contentid=195773A4-7ACA-421D-B7C14AF9983F5831

El Salvador: Training on Resolution 1325

September 21, 2002 - On World Peace Day, WILPF-El Salvador (LIMPAL) and collaborative partners will carry out a training on Security Council Resolution 1325. The training addressed the necessity for women's participation in all dimensions and in all levels of peace efforts, negotiations, reconstruction, reconciliation, re-population and war prevention. The organizers and attendees discussed and developed the program from the bottom-up to see possible ways to implement it in all aspects of life in their country. The meeting drew representatives from the judicial system -- judges, women's groups and feminist organizations, universities, programs of the European Union, media and human rights groups.

