

**COMMEMORATING 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325
&
VALIDATION WORKSHOP FOR GHANA'S MONITORING REPORT
20TH October 2010
Coconut Groove Regency Hotel, Accra**

In commemorating the 10th anniversary of the adoption of UNSCR 1325, the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) members in 13 countries around the world undertook, as their contribution, to monitor the implementation of the Resolution in their various countries as a call for accountability from the various actors in the implementation process.

WPP-Africa pledged to monitor the implementation process in Ghana in collaboration with one of its network members in Ghana "Mothers for Active Nonviolence" (with the support of the UNDP), as the anniversary presents a critical opportunity to review and reflect on achievements made to date as well as existing gaps in its implementation.

With kind support from UNDP, we commissioned a consultant to monitor the process in Ghana (monitoring covered the period May-September 2010), using the global indicators jointly developed by Global network of Women Peacebuilders and the Women Peacemakers Program-Africa. A workshop was subsequently held on October 20th 2010 to review the report on the implementation of the UN Security Resolution 1325 in Ghana and to establish the validation of this in-country monitoring report by relevant stakeholders. The UNDP was represented at the validation workshop by *Eric Albert Opoku*, Governance Program Officer.



Consultant *Joana Opore* presents the draft monitoring report

Mr. Opoku highlighted during his address that even though women are the first to suffer during conflicts, they are seldom included in peace talks and conflict resolution processes even though the few times they were actually included, they often brought the perspectives of women and girls to the peace table, for example, by ensuring that peace agreements address demands for gender equality in new constitution, judicial and electoral structures.

Mr. Opoku lauded the initiative taken by WPP and acknowledged the presence of men during the meeting, pointing out that their support is vital in reaching the goals set by the Resolution.

Coincidentally, a National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Ghana, spearheaded by the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs - MOWAC, is to be launched shortly. The outcome of this monitoring exercise is intended to provide the overall standard level of achievement as against the broader goals set by the resolution. It will also contribute to policy formulation for Ghana's implementation process and serve as a baseline for the NAP being developed by MOWAC.

During the workshop, *Dorothy Onny* of the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs – MOWAC presented the three pillars of MOWAC's action plan in implementing the UNSCR 1325. She commended WPP-Africa, on behalf of MOWAC, for its hard work in advocating for the implementation of the Resolution.



Women Peacemakers Program-Africa Coordinator *Euphemia Akos Dzathor* (seen standing) addresses participants

Participants at the workshop were drawn from WIPSEN-Africa, Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF), Mothers for Active Nonviolence (MOFAN-V), WISE, FOSDA, UNIFEM, Department of Women (DOW), IBIS, West Africa dispute Resolution Centre (WADREC), UNFPA, DOVVSU-Police Headquarters, MOWAC, Ark Foundation, Abantu for Development, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), Gender Centre, WADREC, UNIFEM and The Law Institute.

The media was also represented by Citi FM, GBC Radio, Ghanaian Times, Peace FM and My Journal Online.

Participants reviewed the draft monitoring report based on indicators namely Participation, Prevention and Protection, Promotion of a Gender Perspective, Process (methodology, indicators, monitoring mechanism, stakeholders), Content (Gaps, Additional Information, relevance to 1325, recommendations) and Use.

Participants also provided proposals for relevant actions, including monitoring mechanisms, indicators and benchmarks that various governments, the UN, civil society and other stakeholders should take to fully implement the resolution.



Participants analyze the contents of the report and submit their input for incorporation into the final document



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Recommendations included the fast-tracking of SGBV cases by the Judiciary, for which cases should be held in camera, with the identity of victims withheld. It was also recommended that there be widespread advocacy and sensitization on the document, while ensuring its use and dissemination.

Recommendations for the inclusion in the Resolution comprised a provision on the maltreatment of women during extra-judicial government such as coups d'état, as well as the addition of a component on structures of Early Warning Systems for conflicts.

Participant's recommendations were taken into account in finalization of the monitoring report.