

Outcome Document of the Community of Practice on Women, Peace and Security

In 28 October 2020, approximately 100 women and peace advocates from the civil society, academe as well as government and more than 1,500 audiences in social media participated in the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 in the Philippines.

In this celebration, the spotlight is set on civil societies' work in the area of women, peace, and security in the Philippines. It showcased good practices and lessons learned in integrating gender considerations in the area of prevention, protection, participation, relief, recovery and rehabilitation, including responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in conflict-affected and post-conflict areas.

UN Women, in partnership with the Women Engaged in Action 1325 (WEACT 1325), led this celebration, with support from the Royal Norwegian Embassy in the Philippines.

Below is the summary of recommendations from the civil society and the participants on how to move the UNSCR 1325 forward:

Legislation and policies on women, peace and security

- Pass a law on transitional justice that covers not just reparations, but considers all types of atrocities and systemic abuses on women and the marginalized (indigenous, internally displaced, etc.), in the Bangsamoro and across the country
- Pass a law to protect the rights of internally displaced populations, especially of women and girls, consistent with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement
- Pass the BARMM GAD Code and other local GAD Codes with due consideration on the differential impact of conflict to women and girls
- Ensure the formulation and harmonization of programs, projects and activities anchored in the National/regional/local Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security as enabling environments for addressing the issues and concerns of women and girls in conflict- and post-conflict communities and equally benefit in the fruits of peace; and harmonize women and youth, peace and security agenda

Protection and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls in the context of conflict and complex emergencies

- Uphold the global ceasefire called upon by the United Nations to enable humanitarians to reach populations most vulnerable to COVID-19 such as in conflict-affected and post-conflict areas
- Establish referral pathways that would enable not just government service providers, but also non-government and private sector responses to women and community needs
- Support women human rights defenders through safe havens, legal aid, counselling and other forms of psychosocial support
- Strengthen awareness among responders and communities on combating discrimination, sexual exploitation and abuse against women and girls in the context of conflict and complex emergencies

Women's participation in peacebuilding, mediation and conflict resolution

- Increase and strengthen women's participation in indigenous systems of mediation and conflict resolution, traditional or tribal justice systems, community safety/ security/ policing and invest in their leadership and training to enable them to meaningfully participate in these bodies or strategies
- Increase the number of women in the security sector; strengthen women, peace and security mainstreaming in the security sector through policies, procedures and operations, practices
- Support the Women Caucus Bill in the BARMM region to ensure the meaningful participation of women in law- and policy- making, and formulation and passage of legislation that promote the rights of women and girls
- Establish mechanisms for civil society participation from policy formulation to monitoring and evaluation especially in fragile and transitional communities
- Ensure that the Bangsamoro Islamic Women's Auxiliary Brigade (BIWAB) actively participates in the entire normalization process – from policy formulation to monitoring and evaluation
- Undertake intra/ inter-faith, inter/ intra-cultural, inter/ intra-generational dialogues to facilitate understanding and respect among diverse people and stakeholders, including women, youth, indigenous peoples, internally displaced peoples, traditional/ cultural and religious leaders, development and humanitarian organizations and the Government
- Strengthen the role of the national women's machinery (Philippine Commission on Women) and its regional and local counterparts (e.g., Bangsamoro Women Commission) to influence peace and security policies, strategies and mechanisms
- Build capacities towards gender-sensitive transformative leadership and civic participation, especially among young women, in fragile and transitional communities
- Engage men in understanding and supporting the women, peace and security agenda towards preventing armed conflict, radicalization and threats of violent extremism

Relief, recovery and rehabilitation

- Ensure complementarity and holistic relief and recovery alongside healing and rehabilitation interventions; uphold the dignity of women and girls in the provision of assistance
 - **Relief and recovery**
 - Conduct context-, needs- and resource-based analysis of livelihoods and economic opportunities especially for women affected by conflict, particularly IDP women
 - Include safety nets for women into livelihoods and microenterprises to protect them from socioeconomic shocks such as armed conflict and natural disasters
 - **Healing and rehabilitation**
 - Promote psychosocial support and create safe spaces for healing among widows, IDPs, and women in communities affected by armed conflict
 - Capacitate women to participate in documenting and memorializing the impact of historical injustices and human rights violations to women in conflict- and post-conflict areas

Monitoring of peace agreements and hostilities as it impacts on women

- Monitor the implementation of peace agreements such as the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) as it redounds to peace dividends to women and girls affected by conflict as well as the gender provisions of Republic Act No. 11054 or the Bangsamoro Organic Law
- Establish feedback and accountability mechanisms to report discrimination, exploitation, abuse, and corruption, especially to women in difficult circumstances in the contexts of response, relief, recovery and rehabilitation in conflict-affected and post-conflict areas
- Build capacities in documenting women's human rights violations, especially in the context of conflict and complex emergencies, maximizing international instruments such as the CEDAW, IHL and the Magna Carta of Women
- Support community-led monitoring that engages women to provide feedback on the effects or impacts of development and humanitarian support in conflict-affected and post-conflict areas
- Conduct periodic reviews and evaluations of the implementation of national and regional action plans on women, peace and security, and capture good practices and lessons learned in implementing in these plans as they impact the lives of women