

Republic of Indonesia

Positions for the Commission of the Status of Women

I. Ensuring Access to Legal Protection for Women in Post-Conflict Zones

The Republic of Indonesia recognizes that women are important contributors to the multidimensional process of peacebuilding rather than just victims of conflict situations. We believe that in order to assure protection for women in post conflict zones it is crucial to first identify the the root of the problem and find feasible and innovative solutions. The lack of a legal framework and of stable justice systems fails to ensure the respect of women's rights and their protection against gender violence. Equally important, Indonesia understands that there is the need for women to be integrated into the decision making of peacekeeping processes. Solutions to these will thus give member states the opportunity to ensure longevity in policies towards the protection of women in post conflict zones.

The Republic of Indonesia is continuously seeking to increase its involvement in peacekeeping efforts in post conflict zones. In light of *S/RES/1325(2000)*¹ we have strived towards the achievement of the resolutions objectives by advancing women's involvement in military and in police observers. This action has been taken in UNAMID (African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur), UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon), and in MONUC (United Nations Organization Mission in the D.R.C). Indonesia is also concerned for women's peace and security and has implemented programs called "Schools of Peace for Women" in post-conflict zones. In these programs, capacity building activities are conducted and principles of nonviolence are introduced. In addition, the Republic of Indonesia has hosted many conventions concerning women's empowerment including the *Asian Women Peacemakers Conference on Interfaith Perspectives in Realizing the Role of Women Peacemakers in the Implementation of UNSCR 1325*.

Post conflict zones are often characterized by broken institutions, depleted resources, reduced security, and distressed-polarized populations. Therefore, Indonesia promotes the reinforcement of the *UN Rule of Law Transitional Justice* which involves the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations. In order for nations to consolidate reliable legal systems it is necessary to use Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) as the means to achieve such a stable environments.

According to the 2012 report of *UN Women*, "Women's Participation in Peace Negotiations: Connections between Presence and Influence" the 31 major peace processes between 1992 and 2011 revealed that only 4 percent of signatories, 2.4 percent of chief mediators, 3.7 per cent of witnesses, and 9 per cent of negotiators were women.² On this note, Indonesia encourages strengthening the place of women in conflict resolution and peacekeeping efforts. We also stress the need for deeper engagement with the civil society to ensure the creations of treaties that safeguard women's equality and sustainable development.

Some progress has been made through certain resolutions such as *S/RES/1325(2000)*³ but as a global society much more progress is needed to fully achieve gender equality and the protection of women in post conflict zones. The policies Indonesia proposes to member states: Implementing Legal Frameworks and Advancing the Participation of women, we believe, will serve as key building blocks and vehicles for peace and security. These actions will ultimately give women the confidence and the potential to be agents of change, skillfully reframing and rebuilding societies affected by conflict.

¹ UN Security Council, *Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) [on women and peace and security]*, 31 October 2000, S/RES/1325 (2000)

² Diaz, Pablo Castillo and Simon tordjman. *Women's Participation in Peace Negotiations: Connections between Presence and Influence*. "United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the empowerment of Women." (2010). Web. Oct 22 2015

³ *ibid*

II. Strengthening the Role of Women in Rural Development as a Means for the Eradication of Poverty

The Republic of Indonesia acknowledges that rural women are one of the main components to achieve the new challenges that the 21st century has brought. Women are key drivers of economic growth in every country and their unique and irreplaceable roles in agriculture and other industrial sectors along with their responsibilities as family and community members often provide the basis for multiple economic and social gains. In order to move forward to an equal gender environment, where rural women are empowered and independent, certain basic needs have to be covered. Indonesia recommends that member states should align their policies with the idea that levels of needs such as resources, security, and community engagement are vital when empowering women in rural regions. The Republic of Indonesia proposes the macro plan **R.I.S.E** (Resource Implementation, Security, and Engagement) which has components that have already been successful in rural regions in Indonesia.

The limited access to water, sanitation, food, electricity and infrastructure are the biggest issues that impact women in rural areas. The problems of female-headed households in villages are deeply related to their degree of access to productive resources. The first level of **R.I.S.E** includes **r**esource **i**mplementation on an equal basis, improving quality of life, and giving women the opportunity to concentrate their efforts on becoming more productive in their communities rather than spending 6 hours per day searching for water. The Republic of Indonesia is in conjunction with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) launched in 2007 the Village and Community Empowerment Plan (PMD). This program ensure equal food distribution, agricultural development and low cost access to infrastructure and services; reaching more than 40 million citizens nationwide it has helped to reduce extreme poverty from 17% to 11.2%.

The Republic of Indonesia fully understands that in order to achieve the goals of the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*, security is a necessary need that has to be met for all women. Therefore, the second level of **R.I.S.E** is in accordance with the financial and personal **s**ecurity of rural women. Indonesia has signed and ratified the Convention to *Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* along with creation of the *National Commission on Violence Against Women*. Since then, we have worked on integrating women's rights as a key component of government policy formation and are currently discussing a Gender Equality Bill. This Bill will cover equal rights for women and men to work in all sectors, equal pay for the same work, the right to determine the number and spacing of children, being able to choose husbands and wives without force, and fair treatment before the law. Indonesia has also implemented programs that has helped in advancing women's economic independence. *Family Hope* is a plan that provides innovative financial instruments, such as land rights, microcredits and asset ownership; initiatives that can improve women's access to vital resources and their capacity of achieving stable financial status by expanding and creating new business. We recommend that member states act likewise in working with NGO's and creating programs to insure security. Business development and market access services such as these support economic growth, reduce poverty, and create market opportunities for female entrepreneurs, farmers, and cooperative members.

The third level of **R.I.S.E** assures that women are empowered by **e**ngaging in the community. Indonesia has been successful with the creation of women's associations in rural regions specifically in the provinces of Papua. Through our PNPM agriculture programme one particular women's association in Andai has been given the opportunity to run a fishery business and make an extra profit of 70,000 Rupiah (\$15.97 USD, PPP) per member each month quarter. The Republic of Indonesia also recognizes that when women are able to participate in education that they improve their productivity in the community by learning new skills. We promote the program "Scholars Build Villages" which gives rural woman the ability to acquire the skills and knowledge needed in leading agriculture programs in rural areas. Changing paradigms and culture at rural levels is a great challenge, but the creation of women associations generates opportunities for women to bond socially and form support systems to take collective actions that will produce bigger impacts.