

# NATIONAL ACTION PLAN



## for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and Related Resolutions



UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (UNSCR 1325), unanimously adopted on 31 October 2000, recognizes the centrality of gender in approaches to international peace and security and addresses the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women.

UNSCR 1325 recognizes the importance of women's contributions to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding, and notes that these contributions have historically been undervalued and underutilized.

The key actors addressed in UNSCR 1325 are the Security Council, member states, non-state actors, including parties to armed conflict, and the United Nations Secretary-General.

UNSCR 1325 is the central and overarching legal framework for the global women, peace, and security agenda. This historic resolution brings to the world's attention three important concerns:

- The disproportionate number of women and girls affected by armed conflict and the necessity to protect them in conflict and post-conflict settings.
- The under-representation of women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding activities, and the importance of promoting women's participation in all processes related to peace and security.
- The imperative to mainstream a gender perspective in all aspects of peacekeeping operations and in the peace and security architecture of states and the United Nations system.

Subsequent UNSC Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106, 2122 (2013), and 2242 (2015) reinforce, renew, and complement commitments made in UNSCR 1325.

### THE KENYA NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

The Kenya National Action Plan (KNAP) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions, aptly titled 'Kuhusisha Wanawake ni Kudumisha Amani' ('to involve women is to sustain peace'), is anchored in the constitutional values of gender equality, inclusion, and participation. It is aligned with the Second Medium-Term Plan to achieve coherence in implementation with relevant

national and county priorities, building on existing policies in the fields of security, development, and diplomacy.

The KNAP also draws on all relevant national, regional, and international instruments that address the intersecting areas related to security, peacebuilding, and conflict resolution, as well as ending impunity regarding violence against women, promoting gender mainstreaming, and protecting human rights.

The process of developing the KNAP has been inclusive and participatory. Its National Steering Committee comprises representatives from key government ministries, departments, and agencies; independent constitutional commissions; civil society; the private sector; and the media.

The KNAP aims to mainstream UNSCR 1325 into national development, diplomacy, gender, conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peace, security, and reconciliation strategies and ensure the implementation of existing commitments by government to promote gender equality and women's participation and leadership in public affairs at all levels.

The Kenya National Action Plan will be executed over a three-year period (2016–2018) and aims to encompass all the pillars of UNSCR 1325, adopting the concepts of human security and sustainable peace in projecting outcomes.

The KNAP is the fifty-seventh National Action Plan to be developed globally, and the eighteenth in Africa after Liberia, Nigeria, Uganda, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Rwanda, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Togo, Central African Republic, and Senegal.

### PILLAR 1: PARTICIPATION AND PROMOTION

*Active and increased participation of women at all decision-making levels and in all institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict*

UNSCR 1325 calls for the increased participation of women at all levels of decision making, including in national, regional, and international institutions; in mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict; in peace

**Kuhusisha Wanawake Ni Kudumisha Amani**

negotiations; and in peace operations, as soldiers, police, and civilians. Promotion requires the active and increased engagement of women on issues of peace and security at all levels through deliberate gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women in all processes.

## PILLAR 2: PREVENTION

*The prevention of violations against women and girls, in particular the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and discriminatory practices, abuse, and exploitation*

UNSCR 1325 calls for improving intervention strategies for the prevention of violence against women; accountability for violations; strengthening women’s rights under national law; and supporting local women’s peace initiatives and conflict resolution processes.

## PILLAR 3: PROTECTION

*Protection of women and girls against violence, which negates their safety, personal dignity, and empowerment*

UNSCR 1325 calls for the full implementation of all laws that protect the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts, and for the adoption of special measures to protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, including in emergency and humanitarian situations.

## PILLAR 4: RELIEF AND RECOVERY

*The effective, meaningful, and timely participation of women in all stages of the design and implementation of relief and recovery programmes, including, where relevant, in disarmament and demobilization programmes*

UNSCR 1325 calls for relief and recovery measures to take into account the gender-differentiated experiences

of conflict by women and girls, and pay attention to the particular needs of women and girls during repatriation, demobilization, reintegration, and post-conflict reconstruction and recovery processes, including the design of camps and settlements for refugees and internally displaced persons.

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The KNAP proposes strategies that will enable the Government of Kenya to achieve positive outcomes for women and girls against each of the thematic areas. The strategies are cross-cutting and recognize the interconnectedness of the UNSCR 1325 pillars.

The strategies for implementation of the KNAP will accomplish the following:

- Promote the integration of a gender perspective into Kenya’s peace and security policies, and mainstream gender perspectives into all aspects of conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding.
- Encourage and promote collaboration with, and support to, all stakeholders in their efforts to promote the participation of women in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and relief and recovery programmes.
- Ensure policy and institutional coherence in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related national, county, and regional plans among all stakeholders.
- Promote collaboration with regional and international bodies to promote the women, peace, and security agenda through diplomatic, development, and peacekeeping initiatives in conflict and post-conflict environments.

## THE IMPLEMENTATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND REPORTING STRUCTURE OF THE KNAP

The Ministry of Public Service, Youth, and Gender Affairs (State Department of Gender Affairs), as the national government machinery responsible for the promotion of gender equality in national development and the empowerment of women, will provide overall coordination of the KNAP and will host the KNAP Secretariat.

The ministry will liaise with all stakeholders, including the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, the National Steering Technical Committee, and county government and non-state actors, to ensure the establishment of the KNAP coordination framework and that the key outcomes of the KNAP under the four pillars (Participation and Promotion; Prevention; Protection; Relief and Recovery) are realized. The National Gender and Equality Commission will provide oversight to ensure compliance and accountability by the various actors in implementing the KNAP.

The secretariat will be responsible for overall monitoring of the implementation of the KNAP and will be responsible for developing annual reports to be shared with relevant treaty-monitoring bodies on normative commitments.

