

### **NCWC RECOMMENDATIONS: WPS-N C-NAP3**

It is to be noted that our recommendation address both National and International focus and priorities, as discussed during our meeting.

UN Security Council Resolution 1325: through it the Security Council addressed the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women; recognized the under-valued and under-utilized contributions women make to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding. It also stressed the importance of women's equal and full participation as active agents in peace and security in peace and security: Increased participation and representation of women at all levels of decision-making; Attention to specific protection needs of women and girls in conflict; Gender perspective in post-conflict processes; Gender perspective in UN programming, reporting, and in SC missions; Gender perspective and training in UN peace support operations. In April 2019, the United Kingdom and Germany invited Member States, UN entities, and regional organizations to commit publicly to specific actions ahead of the 20th anniversary of resolution 1325. Sixty-four Member States, 8 UN entities, and 3 regional organizations made commitments. These ranged from new national action plans with an adoption target date before October 2020 to funding pledges, institutional arrangements, and announcements to host, chair, or join existing global initiatives, among others. These commitments will be monitored by UN Women and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Implementation of UNSCR1325 Women Peace and Security and in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the women, peace and security agenda are mutually supportive across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 5 relates to gender equality and Goal 16 to stable and peaceful societies, and The Beijing Platform for Action recognized that peace is inextricably linked with equality between women and men and development. It put forward a set of strategic objectives and actions to be taken. (See especially Chapter IV, Section E, which focuses on "Women and armed conflict". And furthermore the 2010 reports of the Secretary-General's seven-point action plan on gender-responsive peacebuilding", which seeks to enhance the United Nations' responses to women's needs and priorities in the aftermath of conflict, and support women as equal participants in shaping their communities and societies. It sets out commitments across the following areas: conflict resolution, post-conflict planning and financing, civilian capacity, governance, rule of law, and women's economic recovery. Notably, it commits the United Nations to allocate a minimum of 15 per cent of all UN-managed funding in support of peacebuilding projects to advance gender equality and women's empowerment

## National Focus and Priorities

1-Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, recommendations need direct focus and immediate implementation. Indigenous Affairs Canada

2- The conditions of Women in prisons, safety, and mental health care. Ministries of Public Safety and Justice

3- Ensuring specialised focused programmes for women and girls learn to understand their rights in Canada in their language of origin until they learn official language of Canada, in the following categories: refugees, asylum seekers. This should be a priority. These programs should be conducted by women NGOs/CSO and funding from the Ministries of Justice, WAGE, Immigration, Citizenship and Refugees should be ensured.

4- As women Shelters are still lacking space and funding, women and children are seeking refuge and safety outside of their personal domicile, due to the partner/ father's violent and abusive behaviour, are left behind. The safety and security of women and children are of great importance and immediate action is required. As such, our law enforcement -police/RCMP should have a clear mandate to remove the perpetrator from the family domicile to ensure a safe, secure, and stable environment for women and children. The safe haven should be temporary, and once the perpetrator has been removed, women and children should be able to live in safety and security. Women and children should no longer be forced to leave their homes to be safe. This action should be implemented by the following Ministries: Justice and Public Safety.

5- Support for survivors of Human Trafficking and Prostitution: appropriate resources such as: funding special programs to meet the needs of the survivors, access to appropriate mental health care and access to justice in a concerted effort with the Provincial and Territorial governments. These initiatives should be provided by WAGE and Justice Ministries.

6- The full implementation of the 48 recommendations of the final report of the Independent External Comprehensive Review (IECR)- Arbour Report, with the final additions: **zero tolerance for sexual assault, harassment and innuendo used by our military when deployed to places of conflict and crises whether at home or abroad.** CAF/ DND effective immediately.

7-Due to the preconceived notions that men and boys must be strong, which leads and encourages violent and misogynistic behaviour, more focus in pursuing men and boys' engagement in preventing and combating violence against women and girls and gender diverse people (marginalized gender communities) and acknowledging that some men and boys are victims and survivors of all forms violence. The societal construct of men and boys is that the male gender does not portray weakness e.g. "men do not cry", this concept leads to more violence and aggressive behavior perpetuated throughout generations.

## **International Focus and Priorities:**

1-Canada must pursue and make further efforts towards the immediate Implementation of UNSCR 1325.

Noting the commitments in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Beijing Platform for Action linking gender equality with peace and the 2010 report of the Secretary-General's seven-point action plan on gender-responsive peacebuilding.

2-Increasing the meaningful participation of women and women's organizations and networks in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict state building;

3-Preventing, responding to and ending impunity for sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated during conflicts and sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers and other international personnel including humanitarian and development staff.

3-Promoting and protecting women's and girl's rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in fragile, conflict and post -conflict setting meeting specific needs of women and girls in their humanitarian settings, including upholding their sexual rights and their access to sexual and reproductive health services.

4-Strengthening the capacity of peace operations to advance the women peace and security agenda, including by deploying more women and fully embedding the agenda in Canadian Armed Forces operations and police deployments in the areas of conflict.

5- Canada must see that UN Women would initiate and fund training and to facilitate women and civil society to form Peace Keeping and Negotiating Teams in all regions of countries in conflict and war, ensuring a broad inclusion of representatives from all sectors of the society, in terms of diversity, age groups, professions and educational levels.

6- Canada must further ensure that the UN Secretary General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict to document all forms of sexual violence against women and girls. We call on the UN to ensure that in the context of the war against Ukraine all forms of violence against women and girls, especially sexual violence, rape, and trafficking are documented and identified as war crimes to subsequently provide evidence for the International Criminal Court and all other relevant Courts. Women and girls trapped in and fleeing from conflict and war are extremely vulnerable to sexual exploitation by traffickers and organised networks, including abduction and subtle forms of enticement due to their heightened vulnerability in these situations, luring them into prostitution. Efforts to prevent and stop this must be intensified. It is urgent that women and children receive effective protection from the risks of trafficking into prostitution and that all protection and law-enforcement agencies are on the alert. There can be no impunity for trafficking in women and girls.

