



**Panafrican Centre for  
Gender, Peace and  
Development**



University for Peace  
**Université pour la Paix**



July 19, 2006

## **SHORT COURSE ON GENDER AND PEACEBUILDING**

July 16-21, 2006 Mbodiène, Senegal

### **INFORMATION NOTE**

#### **Opportunities and Challenges of the 1325 Resolution**

The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, adopted in 2000, was studied point by point by participants on the second day of the Intensive Course on Gender and Peacebuilding, co-organized by the Panafrican Center for Gender, Peace and Development, Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) and the African Program of the University for Peace.

This Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, Resolution 1325 was at the centre of a stimulating discussion and debate following the much applauded speech of Ms. Ecoma Alaga, gender expert, and member of the NGO, Wipnet.

The speakers shared their experiences in working on the ground, referring specifically to the case of the women of the Ivory Coast, who, during the peace negotiations in Accra III, aligned themselves behind the political parties as a tactic to gain access. The case of the Maghreb countries, in particular Tunisia, was also evoked during the debates, with emphasis on the difficulties of applying Resolution 1325 to the case of North African countries.

In reference to the opportunities and challenges of Resolution 1325, Ms Ecoma Alaga, in her presentation, stressed the importance of establishing a Gender Unit in United Nations missions; the appointment of women at stations of responsibility in the United Nations system overall; the important work of the Working Group on Peace in New York; and the translation of the Resolution into several different languages. In closing, Ms Ecoma Alaga indicated that the Resolution was not well known by women, and that efforts should be made to address this problem by better disseminating information.

On Tuesday afternoon, participants were divided into workshops to complete an exercise on the inclusion of the women in the processes of peace negotiation after the eruption of a conflict. Four working groups were created as a means of reflecting on the inclusion of women in peace negotiations, the criteria for selecting women representatives in negotiations for peace, and the most relevant approach to tackling the violence experienced by women during these negotiations.

For further information, please visit the website of Femmes Africa Solidarité and the University for Peace at: [www.fasngo.org](http://www.fasngo.org) & [www.upeace.org](http://www.upeace.org)