



Femmes Africa Solidarité

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Oral Statement

Thank you Mr. President,

On behalf of Femmes Africa Solidarité, we congratulate the work of the eight valuable years of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, Ms. Yakin Ertürk. Her mandate and support for women in conflict worldwide has had a significant impact on women's human rights.

FAS is alarmed about rape being used as a war tactic **and strongly condemn** the ongoing violence against women in East Democratic Republic of Congo, in Darfur, and other parts of the world, including Afghanistan and Irak.

While we consider UNSC Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security and UNSC Resolution 1820 on Sexual Violence against Civilians in Conflict as powerful and essential pillars for women's promotion, participation, and protection,

We are concerned by the lack of implementation and monitoring mechanism at international and national level.

Therefore, We, women of the world, met in Liberia under the leadership of President Sirleaf-Johnson and President Halonen and adopted the Monrovia Call for Action.

We urge Member States to ensure the full and effective implementation of both UNSC Resolutions 1325 and 1820 and to adopt National Action Plans.

We particularly call on the UN Security General to appoint a **Special Representative for Women and Armed conflict**, accompanied by adequate resources *that will further raise awareness on the differential impact of violent conflict on women and men and the key roles women play in conflict prevention and resolution, peace building and decision making (to remove if necessary)*

FAS calls for the renewal of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. We are convinced that the two mandates will fulfill the gender architecture.

Finally, we strongly recall upon the UN Security Council to incorporate both UNSCR 1325 and 1820 provisions in all peacekeeping mandates. It should strengthen measures to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse. The UNSC should also require all troop contributing countries to increase the number of female civilian and military personnel in peacekeeping missions.