



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations in Vienna

FSC.DEL/23/16
3 February 2016

ENGLISH only

Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 810th FSC Plenary Meeting

(3 February 2016 at 10.00, Hofburg)

(Agenda item 1)

Madam Chairperson,

Ukraine has aligned itself with the EU statement, which we fully support. In addition, let me also make some remarks in our national capacity.

The Delegation of Ukraine joins other delegations in warmly welcoming today's speakers, and thanks them for their valuable contribution to the FSC discussion on the "Defence Capacity Building with a Gender Perspective".

2015 marked fifteen years since the adoption of the Security Council landmark resolution 1325, establishing the basis for the women, peace and security agenda and calling for the special protection and full and equal participation of women in all conflict prevention, resolution and post-conflict peace building efforts.

Ukraine stays committed to the implementation of this resolution. Notably, to highlight Ukraine's efforts in this respect a side-event titled "Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325: international experience, Ukrainian perspective" was organized jointly by the permanent missions of Ukraine and Lithuania in Geneva on the margins of the Human Rights Council session on 29 September 2015.

The Ukrainian national action plan in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 to promote women's equal and full participation as active agents in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace building and peacekeeping, as well as to incorporate gender perspective in all areas, is being developed by the Government of Ukraine, in close consultations with the UN agencies and civil society.

Today a strong civil society has been formed in Ukraine. The Ukrainian society and voluntary organizations, mainly headed by women, provide psychological and medical assistance for military, women and children who got displaced from the Donbas region of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian national action plan will provide for practical steps aimed at promoting women's greater participation in military, political, economic and social life, as well as addressing the current challenges faced by women and girls, first and foremost those caused by the on-going foreign aggression against my country.

A characteristic feature of the modern Armed Forces of Ukraine in today's democratic conditions is the active implementation of State gender policy which aims at sustainable and fair development of the individual serviceperson, regardless of gender. Ukraine has a significant representation of women in the Armed Forces, which is 10% of the total number of military personnel. However, in the Ukrainian Armed Forces women are mostly involved in such professions, as medical doctors, financiers and accountants, logisticians, communication officers etc. Recently, given the security situation in Ukraine this statistics is beginning to change. The main factor, which does not allow to raise the gender balance to 30:70% ratio, is the lack of female soldiers who have been trained for command, engineering and technical specialities. This is partly driven by governing documents' constraints and small number of applicants.

Distinguished colleagues,

The Ministry of social policy of Ukraine in accordance with UNSCR 1325 together with other central executive authorities of Ukraine, international and non-governmental organizations are developing the action plan "Women, peace and security" for the period till 2020". The development of this action plan due to the presence of threats related to the armed conflict in the eastern part of Ukraine underlines the need to consolidate and optimal use of the potential of women in combating violence and establishing peace. More than 1.5 million people moved from the east of Ukraine, most of them - women and children.

The main aim of the Ukraine's national action plan is to ensure stable peace, and a conflict resolution based on mutual respect taking into account the needs and interests of women and men, a high level of participation of women in daily political and military activities, peace process, recovery process, prevention and combating gender-based violence, reintegration of persons affected by the armed conflict, including internally displaced persons.

Faced with the foreign aggression, Ukraine, in close cooperation with its international partners, is making efforts to address gender imbalances and to modernize its national gender policies with the view to promoting the full-fledged and effective participation of women in public and politico-military life.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.