



review of progress achieved in the Millennium Development Goals and the 10-year review of implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security. The annual ministerial review to be held in June/July provides an opportunity to bring greater attention to the constraints on development due to gender inequality and gender-based discrimination. In 2010, and at all future annual ministerial reviews, the Council should enhance commitments and accelerate implementation of concrete actions and strategies to realize gender equality as a central requirement to ensure that the internationally agreed development goals are met.

3. Several current trends and emerging issues in the international economic policy framework constitute areas of concern for promoting and ensuring sustainable development and achieving goals on gender equality and empowerment of women. While globalization provides many opportunities to increase economic

often been complemented by measures such as awareness-raising campaigns on women's equal participation in public life, leadership training, demand-driven capacity-building, and transparent selection systems. For strategies to be effective they need to be backed up by political support and the removal of discriminatory laws and practices that prevent women from seeking to participate in decision-making.

7. Of particular concern is women's continued conspicuous absence from formal peace processes. As a consequence, the needs and priorities of women and girls continue to be overlooked in peace agreements, at donor conferences, in post-conflict legal reform and in policy and programme development, a fact that may prevent the establishment of sustainable peace and be an impediment to development. Concrete action is required to enhance the role and involvement of women as key stakeholders in all stages of peace processes, including as mediators and equal participants in conflict resolution, peacebuilding and post-conflict development. Good practices for increasing women's representation in local, national and international conflict-resolution and peacebuilding bodies should be more widely disseminated and consistently implemented.

8. Improved strategies and mechanisms are needed to strengthen collaboration, coordination and partnerships between different stakeholders, including

women's human rights; efforts to strengthen community support for laws; and legal literacy campaigns targeted at women to raise awareness of their rights.

11. Enhanced accountability must be an integral part in the realization of internationally agreed goals and commitmen