



# Women, Peace, and Security Conference

March 29-30, 2012 • U.S. Naval War College

*The Fabric of War and Phase 4: Women, Peace, and Security Components*

## CONFERENCE PRECEPTS

*"The goal of this National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security is as simple as it is profound: to empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence and insecurity." --- Statement of National Policy*

Welcome to the Women, Peace, and Security Conference at the United States Naval War College. The purpose of the conference is to hold discussions and exchange ideas, philosophies and practical experience about a variety of subjects related to the December 19, 2011 National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security (NAP). This exchange will bring together, for the first time in a US war college setting, panelists who represent an extensive set of viewpoints and experiences from the military, non-profit, bureaucratic, academic, national and international realms. Discussion topics for the conference are wide-ranging and are based on the National Action Plan's five guiding principles<sup>1</sup> as well as upon political, military, educational, institutional, sociological and anthropological viewpoints for attaining the goal of "empowering half the world's population in conflict prevention and peace building."

On National Women's Day in the year 2000, Ambassador Chowdhry, President of the United Nations Security Council, stood before the UN and stated, "I have the honor, on behalf of the UN Security Council, as its president, of issuing a statement that formally brings to global attention, the unrecognized, under-utilized and under-valued contribution women have been making to preventing war, building peace, and engaging people to live in harmony." Chowdhry was referring to the adoption of United Nations Resolution 1325 which for the first time in history, "addressed not only the inordinate impact of war on women, but also the pivotal role women should and do play in conflict management, conflict resolution, and sustainable peace." On December 19, 2011, President Barack Obama announced the United States had become the 33<sup>rd</sup> nation to adopt a Women, Peace, and Security National Action Plan based on the tenants found in UN Resolution 1325.<sup>2</sup>

Of particular, but not of sole importance to this U.S. Naval War College conference, are the new responsibilities the plan has created for the Department of Defense. There are eighty four sub-objectives in the NAP of which seventeen are linked to the DoD as an implementation agency. (See Appendix 1).

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<sup>1</sup> (1) Engagement and protection of women as agents of peace and stability (2) Building on the goals of gender integration to complement and enhance existing initiatives (3) Executing a policy that promotes inclusion of a variety of stakeholders (4) Maximizing the impact of the plan by coordinating among the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, Department of State, United States Agency for International Development, Center for Disease Control, U.S. Mission to the United Nations, Treasury, Justice, and the Department of Homeland Security (5) Accountability for implementation.

<sup>2</sup> Austria 2007, Belgium 2009, Bosnia-Herzegovina 2012, Canada 2010, Chile 2009, Cote D'Ivoire 2007, Croatia 2011, Holland 2005, DRC 2010, Estonia 2010, Finland 2008, France 2010, Georgia 2011, Guinea 2011, Guinea-Bissau 2011, Iceland 2008, Italy 2010, Liberia 2009, Nepal 2010, Netherlands 2011, Norway 2006, Philippines 2010, Portugal 2009, Rwanda 2010, Senegal 2011, Serbia 2011, Sierra Leone 2010, Slovenia 2011, Spain 2007, Sweden 2006, Switzerland 2007, Uganda 2008, United Kingdom 2011, United States 2011.

Fourteen of these seventeen sub-objectives require cross organizational interface between DoD and one or more of seven NGOs and/or federal agencies. Within three of the sub-objectives, DoD is the sole implementation body. It is expected that DoD will operate as a participatory agent during peace processes and decision-making in partner nation assistance programs, and in building capacities in defense ministries. They will implement and enforce policies relative to military justice systems which promote and protect women's rights, incorporate modules on protection that specifically highlight the needs of women in conflict situations as well as provide training to partner militaries and security sector bodies.

## PRECEPTS

**Precept 1. *Military.*** It is important to continually increase our level of knowledge and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the military as they relate to the National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security.

What are some past experiences of military professionals and non-governmental organizations during reconstruction and Phase 4 operations? What was learned from these experiences?

**Precept 2. *Perspectives.*** The voices of diverse perspectives should be spoken and heard as implementation of the national action plan grows and matures to ensure the continued viability and well-being of the elements that make for a proactive Women, Peace, and Security initiative. Among major perspectives to be considered are: politics, empowerment and inclusion, and the fields of health, population growth, and education.

What is the importance of these larger perspectives? What are the viewpoints and experiences of practitioners and scholars about these zones of significance? What are some of the difficulties being experienced? How can difficulties which arise, be managed for greater success in outcomes?

**Precept 3. *Institutions and Plans of Action.*** As ideological discussions about women, peace and security mature, the institutionalization of ideologies will ensure that the concept of women, peace, and security is incorporated into a way of thinking and its elements are actionable.

What is the history of the role of the Department of Defense relative to the National Action Plan? In the larger realm of international development, are there effective ways and means of implementing action plans that tie together economics and politics resulting in true empowerment and change? Why is understanding law important to advocacy? Are there good and bad examples of institutionalizing gender equality?

**Precept 4. *Joint Professional Military Education.*** Integrating women, peace and security perspectives into war college pedagogy is an important aspect of ensuring the changes implied within the National Action Plan are internalized by individuals who will be future leaders in the United States national security environment.

What are some challenges of gender inclusion in academic settings? Why are understanding sociological and anthropological perspectives integral to understanding gender inclusion? How might the experiences of DoD and other entities engagements be incorporated into Professional Military Education curriculum and Joint Professional Military Curriculum? What curriculum development and training examples currently exist? Is it important to have this subject in curriculum and where would placement in curriculum be most appropriate -operations, gaming, history, law, or contemporary security issues?

## APPENDIX 1 SUB-OBJECTIVES

### APPENDIX 1

#### DOD RELATIVE COMPONENTS OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

##### 1.0 National Integration and Institutionalization

1.3	STATE DOD USAID	Designate one or more officers, as appropriate as responsible for coordination of implementation of the NAP.
	USAID DOD STATE CDC	Pre-deployment and in-theater training for members of the US military and civilians as well as Professional Military Education, including Commander's courses, and intermediate and senior service schools.
1.4	DOD USUN	Develop and improve data collection mechanisms to track and report progress on WPS objectives, assess lessons learned, and identify best practices from existing programs.

##### 2.0 Participation in Peace Processes and Decision Making

2.1	STATE USAID DOD	Assist partner governments in improving the recruitment and retention of women, including minorities and other historically marginalized women, into government ministries and the incorporation of women's perspectives into peace and security policy.
	STATE DOD USUN	Provide common guidelines and training to assist partner nations to integrate women and their perspectives into their security sectors.
	STATE DOD	Leverage participation of female US military personnel to encourage and model gender integration and reach out to female and male populations in partner nations.
	STATE DOD	Increase partner nation women's participation in US funded training programs for foreign police, judicial and military personnel.
		Participation in peace processes and decision making, including professional military education (PME) as well as exchange programs, conferences, and seminars.
2.2	DOD	Assist partner nations in building the capacity of their defense ministries to develop, implement, and enforce policies and military justice systems that promote and protect women's rights.

### 3.0 Protection from Violence

3.1	DOD	Incorporate modules on protection, rights and specific needs of women in conflict into training provided to partner militaries and security personnel.
	STATE USAID DOD	Support education and awareness initiatives for U.S. government civilian contractors and aid workers on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse in crisis and conflict-affected environments.
3.2	STATE USAID DOD	Support the development of effective accountability and transitional justice mechanisms that address crimes committed against women and girls and reduce impunity.
	STATE DOD USAID	Assist multilateral and international organizations in developing appropriate mechanisms for sexual assault prevention, response and accountability, and combating sexual exploitation and abuses. Establish standard operating procedures for USG to follow up on cases of SEA by international personnel to ensure accountability.
3.3	DOD	Maintain a zero tolerance policy with regard to trafficking in persons for US military and civilian personnel.
	STATE DOD JUSTICE, DHS, USAID	Coordinate implementation of the anti-trafficking related items of the NAP with the ongoing work of the US Presidential Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and the Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking in Persons.

### 4.1 Conflict Prevention

4.1	STATE USAID DOD	Integrate protocols and support opportunities to share best practices for gender analysis in conflict mapping and reporting, including for mass atrocity prevention and stabilization funding. Review conflict early warning systems and conflict assessment methodologies including the interagency conflict assessment framework to assess and strengthen the integration of gender in these tools.
	USAID DOD	Actively engage women in planning and implementing disaster and emergency preparedness and risk reduction activities, including regarding how police can better interact with women in their role as first responders.

## 5.0 Access to Relief and Recovery

5.1	STATE DOD USUN, USAID	Reintegration and early recovery programs support demobilization, disarmament and reintegration (DDR) programs, including sustainable livelihood alternatives which address the distinct needs of male and female ex-combatants and those associated with armed forces in other capacities.
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### **National Security Strategy**

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss\\_viewer/national\\_security\\_strategy.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/national_security_strategy.pdf)

### **Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review**

<http://csis.org/publication/first-quadrennial-diplomacy-and-development-review>

### **National Action Plan for Women, Peace, and Security**

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/email-files/US\\_National\\_Action\\_Plan\\_on\\_Women\\_Peace\\_and\\_Security.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/email-files/US_National_Action_Plan_on_Women_Peace_and_Security.pdf)

### **White House Fact Sheet**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/12/19/fact-sheet-united-states-national-action-plan-women-peace-and-security>