

GUIDEBOOK ON CEDAW GENERAL  
RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND  
THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS  
ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY



## Acknowledgements

UN Women would like to thank Aisling Swaine and Catherine O'Rourke, the authors who had primary responsibility for developing this publication.

This publication may be freely used for non-commercial, fair use purposes, with proper acknowledgement of UN Women. Any other use must be authorized in writing by UN Women following a written request for permission. Any use of the content, in whole or in part, in all hard or soft-copy including in any online display, shall include attribution to UN Women as the original publisher and display, or shall cause to be displayed, the copyright of UN Women as follows: "Copyright © 2015 by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. All worldwide rights reserved." No user shall have the right to grant rights in the publication or contents that would purport to restrict the rights of UN Women.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of UN Women, the United Nations or any of its affiliated organizations.

© 2015 UN Women. All rights reserved.  
Manufactured in the United States

Design: Dammsavage Inc.

GUIDEBOOK ON CEDAW  
GENERAL RECOMMENDATION  
NO. 30 AND THE UN SECURITY  
COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ON  
WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY



**UN WOMEN**  
New York 2015



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

ACRONYMS	6
SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION	7
Introduction	7
How to use this Guidebook	7
SECTION 2: OVERVIEW OF CEDAW GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL WPS RESOLUTIONS	8
Background to CEDAW and General Recommendation No. 30	8
Background to the United Nations Security Council Women, Peace and Security Resolutions	9
SECTION 3: THE CONTENT OF GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND THE WPS RESOLUTIONS	11
Introduction	11
Content of General Recommendation No. 30 and the WPS Resolutions	12
SECTION 4: ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING	20
Introduction	20
State Reporting to the CEDAW Committee	20
The UN Human Rights Council	25
Reporting to the Security Council	26
Implementation and Monitoring Tools related to the WPS Resolutions	26

# ACRONYMS

---

<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
<b>GR30</b>	General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations
<b>NAP</b>	National Action Plan (on WPS)
<b>OP</b>	Operational paragraph
<b>SEA</b>	Sexual exploitation and abuse
<b>UNSG</b>	UN Secretary-General
<b>UNSCR</b>	UN Security Council resolution
<b>UPR</b>	Universal Periodic Review
<b>WPS</b>	Women, peace and security

## SECTION 1

# INTRODUCTION

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Convention) and the United Nations Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) have established important obligations for the protection of women's human rights and achievement of gender equality relative to issues of international peace and security.

The adoption by the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Committee) of General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations (GR30) in October 2013 strengthened and made clear the applicability of the Convention to a diverse range of settings affected by conflict and political crises. It also set out and affirmed the Convention's linkages with the UN Security Council's WPS agenda. Brought together, they offer a substantive framework to ensure that gender equality becomes integral to conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and accountability.

The purpose of this Guidebook is to increase knowledge on both sets of frameworks and expand understanding of how the Convention and the WPS resolutions can be implemented in congruent ways and used to strengthen and reinforce each instrument's efficacy. The Guidebook provides an overview of the reporting and monitoring mechanisms inherent to both GR30 and the WPS resolutions, in order to enhance accountability for both frameworks. It provides guidance on how implementation of GR30 and the WPS resolutions can strengthen and reinforce each other, in particular through reporting.

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

The Guidebook is organized into distinctive sections to enable users to access discrete information and guidance that is of most relevance to their work, as well as to read and use the Guidebook in its entirety. The Guidebook is organized as follows:

- Section 1: Introduction
- Section 2: Overview of CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30 and the UN Security Council WPS Resolutions
- Section 3: The Content of General Recommendation No. 30 and the WPS Resolutions
- Section 4: Accountability and Reporting

## SECTION 2

# OVERVIEW OF CEDAW GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL WPS RESOLUTIONS

This section provides an overview of the background to CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30 and the UN Security Council WPS resolutions. It can be used to glean knowledge on the adoption of these frameworks, their significance and overall focus.

### BACKGROUND TO CEDAW AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is central to the realization of women's human rights. The Convention constitutes an international bill of rights for women. It creates binding legal obligations regarding women's equal enjoyment with men of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. The Convention requires States parties to eliminate discrimination against women (which is defined in Article 1 of the Convention, outlined in Box 1) in the public as well as the private sphere, including within the family. The Convention was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18 December 1979 to reinforce the provisions of existing international instruments. The Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981 and has been ratified by 189 States.

The Convention established the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, which acts as a monitoring system to oversee the implementation of the Convention. The Committee examines initial and periodic reports submitted by States parties on the steps they have taken to

implement the Convention. The Committee is composed of 23 experts who serve four-year terms and serve in a personal capacity.

#### BOX 1

##### Defining Discrimination

Article 1 of the Convention defines discrimination as “any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.”

The Convention does not permit States to derogate from Convention obligations during periods of conflict or public emergency. State obligations persist during such periods, including due diligence obligations to prevent, investigate, punish and ensure redress for the



acts of private individuals or entities that impair the rights enshrined in the Convention (*CEDAW General Recommendations 30 (2013), para 15, and 19 (1992), para 9*).

### General Recommendation No. 30

The principles enshrined in the Convention provide a framework for responding to established and new challenges to women's equality. Since its first session in 1982, the Committee and other actors at the national and international levels have continuously worked to clarify understanding of the Convention, the specific nature of discrimination against women and how to implement the Convention in order to end discrimination. The Convention empowers the Committee to adopt General Recommendations on articles or thematic issues under the Convention. General Recommendations clarify the scope of the Convention and provide detailed guidance to States on how to implement the obligations of the Convention.

General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations (2013) works to support States to meet their obligations under the Convention, including their due diligence obligations, before, during and after conflict. GR30 was informed by a wide and deep process of consultation with conflict-affected women and civil society actors in different regions of the world. GR30 clarifies the application of the Convention to situations of armed conflict and political crises, to prevention and resolution of conflicts and to the various complex peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction processes. GR30 outlines the content of the obligations assumed by States parties and also makes suggestions to non-State actors.

GR30 covers the application of the Convention to conflict prevention, international and internal armed conflict, situations of foreign occupation, in addition to other forms of occupation and the post-conflict phase, as well as situations of low intensity civil and political strife, states of emergency, terrorism and responses to terrorism, statelessness and internal displacement. In situations that meet the threshold definition of non-international or international armed conflict, the Convention and international humanitarian law apply concurrently and their different protections are complementary, not mutually exclusive. GR30 also considers the application of the Convention to all actions of States parties affecting human rights of citizens and non-citizens, within their territory or effective control, even if not situated within their territory. The Convention requires States parties to regulate the activities of domestic non-State actors by exercising due diligence to prevent, investigate, punish and ensure redress for acts of private individuals or non-State groups that impair rights enshrined in the Convention.

The primary purpose of GR30 is to provide authoritative guidance to States parties on the legislative, policy and other appropriate measures to ensure full compliance with their Convention obligations to protect, respect and fulfil women's human rights in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict contexts. GR30 is broad in its thematic scope and covers gender-based violence and trafficking; participation; access to education, employment and health, and rural women; displacement, refugees and asylum-seekers; nationality and statelessness; marriage and family relations; security sector reform and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants; constitutional and electoral reform; and access to justice.

## BACKGROUND TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY RESOLUTIONS

The United Nations Security Council is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations and is charged with the maintenance of international peace and security. Its powers include the establishment of peacekeeping operations, the establishment

of international sanctions, and the authorization of military action through Security Council resolutions. Since 2000, the Security Council has adopted a series of resolutions under the theme of WPS, which focus on issues of women's human rights and gender

equality in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations (Box 2 lists all WPS resolutions). UNSCR 1325 (2000) was the first WPS resolution and was unanimously adopted on 31 October 2000. The resolution marked the first time the Security Council addressed the differential and at times unique impact of armed conflict on women. The resolution stressed the importance of women's equal and full participation as active agents in peace and security. The resolution also addresses themes of HIV/AIDS programming; repatriation, resettlement and reintegration of former combatants; post-conflict reconstruction programming; constitutional and electoral reform processes; access to justice; gender-based violence; and displacement.

#### BOX 2

##### The Women, Peace and Security Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council

**Resolution 1325 (2000)**

**Resolution 1820 (2008)**

**Resolution 1888 (2009)**

**Resolution 1889 (2009)**

**Resolution 1960 (2010)**

**Resolution 2106 (2013)**

**Resolution 2122 (2013)**

Six subsequent resolutions have been adopted by the Security Council to develop and enforce meaningful implementation and oversight mechanisms for the WPS agenda. To this end, UNSCR 1820 (2008) was adopted to focus on the specific issue of sexual violence in conflict, bringing increased attention to this issue. The resolution recognizes sexual violence as a tactic of war, and notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide. UNSCR 1888 (2009) established mechanisms for implementation and enforcement of the WPS agenda, namely the appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General to advance the UN's work on addressing sexual violence in conflict. In addition, UNSCR 1889 (2009) establishes Women Protection Advisors within peace-keeping missions. Importantly, the resolution focuses

on women's participation in all stages of peace processes and included a request to the Secretary-General to develop a set of global indicators (Box 3) to track and serve as a common basis for reporting on implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2000) by relevant UN entities, other international and regional organizations, and UN Member States.

#### BOX 3

##### Global Indicators on WPS

UNSCR 1889, OP 17 requested the Secretary-General to submit to the UN Security Council "for consideration, a set of indicators for use at the global level to track implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), which could serve as a common basis for reporting by relevant United Nations entities, other international and regional organizations, and Member States, on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in 2010 and beyond". The 26 indicators are organized into 4 Pillars: Prevention, Participation, Protection, and Relief and Recovery and offer a way to track and account for implementation. The 26 indicators are listed on pages 15-21 of the Secretary-General's report (S/2010/498).

More recently, UNSCR 1960 (2010) emphasizes the importance of gender-disaggregated baseline data on the impact of conflict, in particular in terms of sexual violence in conflict. The resolution creates institutional tools to combat impunity and outlines specific steps needed for both the prevention of, and protection from, sexual violence in conflict, and establishes consequences for sexual violence, including: listing in Secretary-General's annual reports, referrals to UN Sanctions Committees and to the International Criminal Court, international condemnation, and reparations. UNSCR 2106 (2013) focuses on the importance of securing prosecutions for sexual violence in order to tackle widespread impunity for the offence. UNSCR 2122 (2013) puts in place measures to ensure women's participation and leadership in conflict prevention, peace processes and throughout post-conflict recovery measures. Significantly, both UNSCR 2122 (2013) and GR30 were adopted on the same day, October 18, 2013.

## SECTION 3

# THE CONTENT OF GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND THE WPS RESOLUTIONS

This section provides an overview of the specific content of GR30 and how it relates to the WPS resolutions. It can be used for guidance on the thematic issues that are covered by each framework and how each framework can be used to strengthen and reinforce the other.

## INTRODUCTION

General Recommendation No. 30 and the WPS resolutions support and reinforce each other in several important ways and are most effective when used together. The WPS resolutions are especially significant in that they bring women's human rights in conflict and post-conflict settings into the Security Council, the UN's highest decision-making body on peace and security. Further, the WPS resolutions have ensured that the Security Council is alert to issues of women, peace and security in all of its decision-making. Nevertheless, due to the Security Council's responsibility to maintain, and to respond to threats to, international peace and security, the WPS resolutions also constrain the WPS agenda to a narrow timeframe and mandate. GR30, by contrast, is more expansive in its attention to the full panoply of women's human rights in conflict and post-conflict settings. Moreover, CEDAW's application to States before, during and after conflict means that the Convention offers a unique framework for recognizing and redressing continuities between human rights violations experienced by women and girls in conflict and post-conflict settings.

GR30 and the WPS resolutions are broad in their thematic scope and address a range of women's human rights concerns in conflict prevention, conflict

and post-conflict contexts. Both GR30 and the WPS resolutions cross-reference each other and provide for ways that implementation of each framework can be reinforced.

GR30 states that:

States parties are to provide information on the implementation of the Security Council agenda on women, peace and security, in particular resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010) and 2106 (2013), including by specifically reporting on compliance with any agreed United Nations benchmarks or indicators developed as part of that agenda (para 83).

GR30 also outlines how implementation of the WPS resolutions are constitutive of obligations under CEDAW and that "their implementation must be premised on a model of substantive equality and cover all rights enshrined in the Convention" (para 26).

Operational paragraph (OP) 9 of UNSCR 1325 (2000) calls on all parties to armed conflict to respect fully the requirements established by CEDAW, and the Preambles to UNSCRs 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) and 1889 (2009) reaffirm the obligations of States parties to CEDAW.

## CONTENT OF GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND THE WPS RESOLUTIONS

Table (A) provides an outline of the thematic issues that are covered by GR30 and where these are reflected in the WPS resolutions. Below is a narrative summary elaborating on these provisions:

### Conflict Prevention

GR30 highlights the correlation between increased prevalence of gender-based violence and discrimination and the outbreak of conflict. It notes the exclusion of women from conflict prevention processes and the low participation of women in institutions involved in preventive diplomacy and action on issues such as nuclear disarmament.

Drawing on the Convention's provisions, GR30 stipulates that conflict prevention interventions and policies, whether by States or third-parties, should be non-discriminatory and avoid reinforcing gender inequalities. This lends substantive equality provisions to the WPS resolutions' call for Member States to increase women's participation in prevention efforts and for UN third-party representatives to invite women to discussions on conflict prevention. Both GR30 and UNSCR 2122 (2013) recognize the importance of the Arms Trade Treaty (2013) and its provisions on the gendered impacts of the proliferation of arms. Recommendations provided by GR30 reinforce accountability under both frameworks to this issue and stress the need for early warning systems to include gender-related indicators.

### Gender-based Violence

GR30 notes that violence against women and girls is a form of discrimination arising from gender inequalities as elaborated through the Convention. It draws attention to the role of conflict in exacerbating existing gender inequalities, which heightens the risk of gender-based violence for women and girls. It also recognizes that there are continuities between gender-based violence occurring before, during and after conflict. GR30 captures how women and girls might experience sexual violence as a tactic of

conflict by armed combatants, may experience wider forms of violence by multiple actors during and after conflict, and how such violence impacts on women's participation in public life (paras 34-38).

GR30 elaborates the obligations on States under the Convention to take steps to prevent, investigate and punish all such forms of violence. GR30 thereby offers a wide interpretation of the types of gender-based violence that women and girls might experience related to conflict, and the range of contexts and actors involved. The WPS resolutions primarily focus on "sexual violence when used and commissioned as a tactic of war to deliberately target civilians or as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations" (UNSCRs 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013)). By taking both frameworks together, a broader understanding and approach to women's and girls' experiences of conflict-related violence may be advanced by States parties and will be monitored by the Committee.

### Trafficking

GR30 refers to trafficking as gender-based discrimination that is exacerbated during and after conflict. The WPS resolutions do not specifically address trafficking, and GR30 thereby enhances accountability for this as a conflict-related issue. GR30 notes that conflict-affected contexts are sites of origin, transit and destination for trafficking and that restrictive migration policies may intensify women's vulnerability to trafficking.

In its recommendations on trafficking, GR30 also addresses the issue of 'sexual exploitation and abuse' (SEA). This is an issue that is addressed by the WPS resolutions, which provide accountability and zero tolerance for SEA by UN personnel. GR30 extends the range of actors accountable on this issue to include national troops, peacekeeping forces, border police, immigration officials and humanitarian actors, and in this way this issue is reinforced and accountability extended through GR30.

## Participation

The Convention requires that States ensure women's equal participation in public and political life and at the international level (articles 7 and 8). Through GR30, guidance is offered to States on applying this principle to conflict, transition periods and recovery processes. Both GR30 and the WPS resolutions call for States to ensure the inclusion of women in international negotiations, peacekeeping activities, all levels of preventive diplomacy, mediation, humanitarian assistance, social reconciliation, peace negotiations at the national, regional and international levels, as well as in the criminal justice system.

In line with the Convention, GR30 requires that strategies such as the use of quotas are implemented to address "the specific and multiple barriers to women's equal participation" in conflict-affected contexts, offering substantive reinforcement to implementation of these provisions provided for in the WPS resolutions.

## Access to Education, Employment and Health, and Rural Women

GR30 notes that the breakdown in infrastructure and services that results from armed conflict has particular negative impacts on women's socio-economic rights. Women's access to critical services such as health, social care and education may be hindered, while many women may also have to seek alternative sources of livelihood.

The WPS resolutions acknowledge the need to ensure basic service provision for women, particularly in order to address the health impacts of sexual violence and to ensure women's access to economic opportunities post-conflict. Both GR30 and the WPS resolutions have implications for access to safe abortion in conflict and post-conflict settings. UNSCR 2122 (2013) calls on Member States and UN entities to ensure humanitarian aid and funding includes provision for the full range of medical, legal, psychosocial and livelihood services to women affected by armed conflict and post-conflict situations, "noting the need for access to the full range of sexual and reproductive health

services, including regarding pregnancies resulting from rape, without discrimination" (UNSCR 2122 (2013), preambular paras). GR30 addresses the issue of safe abortion directly, understanding sexual and reproductive health care to include, *inter alia*, access to information, family planning services, including emergency contraception; maternal health services; safe abortion services; and post-abortion care (GR30, para 52(c)). The prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS is addressed directly in GR30 (para 52(c)); the WPS resolutions (UNSCR 1325 (2000), para 6; and UNSCR 2106 (2013), para 20); and is in line also with UNSCR 1983 (2011), which recognizes the need to end conflict related sexual violence in order to reduce the risk to women of exposure to HIV.

The steps expected of States are elaborated by GR30 to include specific provisions for rural women, strengthened approaches that overall promote women's human rights, and "economic recovery strategies that promote gender equality as a necessary pre-condition for a sustainable post-conflict economy" (para 52, (a)).

## Displacement, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

GR30 provides guidance on the Convention's applicability "to every stage of the displacement cycle" (para 53). It outlines the ways that gender inequalities impact and determine women's differentiated experience of displacement compared to men. Both GR30 and the WPS resolutions require that steps are taken to address the specific needs of women and girls who are internally displaced or are refugees, including protection from violence, promotion of women's participation in decision-making in displacement sites and response to their specific needs.

GR30 broadens the reach of the WPS resolutions by requiring that "all instances of gender-based discrimination" are investigated and prosecuted and that the specific risks facing women "subject to multiple discrimination, including women with disabilities, older women, girls, widows, women who head households, pregnant women, women living with HIV/AIDS, rural women, indigenous women, women belonging to ethnic, national, sexual or religious minorities, and

#### BOX 4

##### Example of Committee's Concluding Observations

The Committee has highlighted the relevance of intersecting forms of discrimination to implementation of GR30. For example, in its Concluding Observations in February 2014 in relation to the State party report of Iraq, the Committee recommended “in line with its general recommendation No. 30” that Iraq “Address the specific risks and particular needs of different groups of returnee, internally displaced and refugee women who are subjected to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination” (CEDAW/C/IRQ/CO/4-6, para 14, b).

women human rights defenders” are addressed (GR30, para 57 (b)(f)). See Box 4 for an example of the Committee's Concluding Observations and the issue of multiple discrimination. The WPS resolutions are usefully supplemented by GR30 because it draws attention to the multiple barriers that women and girls may face in situations affected by conflict, which is an aspect of women's experiences and rights that is not articulated through the resolutions.

### Security Sector Reform and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

In recognition of the combatancy roles that women may play in conflict and the enduring exclusion of women from disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes (DDR) and from the security sector, GR30 and the WPS resolutions make specific provisions to advance women's human rights in these areas. GR30 reinforces provisions of WPS resolutions that women's access to DDR programmes is guaranteed and that these programmes overcome gender stereotypes that impede women's economic opportunities on the basis of equality with men. Both frameworks also require that security sector reform initiatives increase the numbers of women in security institutions and uphold zero tolerance policies for sexual abuse.

### Constitutional and Electoral Reform

GR30 provides guidance on how constitutional and electoral reform processes can be used to “lay the foundations of gender equality in the transition period and beyond” (GR30, para 70). Both GR30 and the WPS resolutions reinforce each framework's requirement for attention to gender issues in the processes of drafting constitutions and the need to guarantee women's human rights within constitutions and electoral systems. GR30 lends the Convention's substantive equality provisions to these issues by requiring that temporary special measures are included in constitutions and are used to ensure women's representation in all aspects of the electoral process.

### Access to Justice

GR30 and the WPS resolutions usefully reinforce one another in their emphasis on women's access to justice needs throughout post-conflict accountability processes, such as calling for the rejection of amnesties for gender-based violations in transitional justice mechanisms; ensuring the participation of women in the design, operation and monitoring of all transitional justice processes; ensuring gender-sensitive investigations by security and justice sectors for conflict-related violence against women and girls; and undertaking that post-conflict legal and judicial reform enhances women's access to justice.

GR30 strengthens the WPS resolutions by emphasizing the obligation on States exiting conflict to ensure that all forms of discrimination against women are prohibited when re-establishing the rule of law and associated legal reform. For example, GR30 recommends that States parties establish criminal, civil and disciplinary sanctions for discrimination against women where appropriate; and include specific measures aimed at protecting women against any act of discrimination through post-conflict rule of law reform (GR30, paras 81(d)).

## Nationality and Statelessness

The Convention affirms the importance of women's right to nationality for themselves and their children. GR30 outlines that women's enduring experience of discrimination during conflict can result in loss of nationality and statelessness, making them particularly vulnerable to rights violations and abuse. UNSCR 2122 (2013) highlights that unequal citizenship rights, gender bias in asylum procedures and lack of access to identity documents enhances women's vulnerability in conflict and post-conflict situations (preambular paras).

GR30 provides useful guidance to support States in addressing these issues under both instruments, including addressing the destruction or loss of documents, women's inability to register births and the resulting impacts, such as heightened risk of abuse for women in the public and private spheres.

## Marriage and Family Relations

GR30 elaborates the applicability of the Convention's provisions on marriage to forced marriage in conflict situations, where women and girls may be coerced into marriage by armed groups or because women's post-conflict poverty forces them to marry for financial security. GR30 guides States parties on their obligation to prohibit, prevent and punish forced marriage. This guidance is applicable to implementation of the WPS resolutions, whereby forced marriage is captured under the resolutions' provisions on gender-based violence, rights violations and addressing accountability and impunity.

GR30 also explicitly provides guidance on guaranteeing women's equal access to property and inheritance rights as crucial components of post-conflict recovery processes, and the need to protect women from forced pregnancies, abortions and sterilization.

**TABLE (A):  
Thematic Issues Addressed by General Recommendation No. 30 and the UN Security Council Women, Peace and Security Resolutions**

	<b>CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30</b>	<b>UN Security Council Women, Peace &amp; Security Resolutions</b>
<b>Conflict Prevention</b>	<p>Paras 29 - 38: Draws on the Convention’s requirements that States focus on the prevention of conflict and ensure women’s right to participate in preventive actions, diplomacy and mediation processes</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reinforce and support women’s in/formal prevention efforts</li> <li>• Ensure women’s participation in multi-level prevention efforts</li> <li>• Establish early warning systems that include gender-related preventive actions and indicators</li> <li>• Address gendered impact of international arms trade and ratify the Arms Trade Treaty (2013)</li> </ul>	<p>Women’s role in the prevention of conflict is addressed across all of the WPS resolutions, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member States to increase participation of women in decision-making in conflict prevention at multi-levels (UNSCR 1325 OP 1, UNSCR 2122 OP 7)</li> <li>• Secretary-General and Special Envoys to invite women to participate in discussions related to conflict prevention (UNSCR 1820 OP 12)</li> <li>• Secretary-General, Special Envoys and Special Representatives to report on progress in inviting women to discussions on conflict prevention (UNSCR 2122 OP 2 (c) )</li> </ul>
<b>Gender-based Violence</b>	<p>Paras 34 – 38: Draws on the Convention’s provisions for the prohibition of violence against women and girls as a form of discrimination and violation of women’s human rights (Arts. 1, 2, 3, 5(a) of CEDAW)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit and prevent all forms of gender-based violations by State and non-State actors</li> <li>• Ensure access to justice, including through gender-sensitive investigation procedures, adoption of policies and protocols for security sectors, peace keepers, and capacity development for judiciary</li> <li>• Collect standardized data on range of violence in multiple areas and affecting different categories of women</li> <li>• Ensure provision of multi-sectoral referral-based services</li> </ul>	<p>Violence against women and girls is addressed across all the resolutions. Particular provisions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parties to armed conflict to take measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict (UNSCR 1325 OP 10)</li> <li>• Parties to armed conflict to cease sexual violence as a tactic of conflict; to protect civilians from such violence</li> <li>• UN Secretary-General with other UN entities to ensure training of all humanitarian and peacekeeping personnel to prevent and respond to sexual violence</li> <li>• States contributing troops and police to ensure steps to address sexual violence</li> <li>• UN entities to ensure protection and provision of services for sexual violence during and after conflict</li> <li>• States, UN entities, financial institutions to develop and strengthen judicial, health and civil society institutions to address sexual violence (UNSCRs 1820, 1888, 1960, 2106)</li> </ul>
<b>Trafficking (including sexual exploitation and abuse)</b>	<p>Paras 39- 41: Draws on the Convention’s requirement that States make all efforts to suppress trafficking in women and girls, making these provisions specifically relevant to conflict affected contexts (Art. 6)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent, prosecute and punish trafficking and provide protection to women, including the displaced</li> <li>• Adopt zero tolerance policies on trafficking and on SEA by multiple actors (peacekeeping, security institutions and others)</li> <li>• Adopt gender-sensitive migration policies, and regional agreements for the rights of women and girls</li> </ul>	<p>The WPS resolutions do not specifically address trafficking, but do address SEA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement and strengthen efforts for a policy of zero tolerance for SEA by UN personnel, including provision of training on these issues (UNSCR 1960 OP 16, UNSCR 2106 OP 15)</li> <li>• Member States to take preventive action and ensure accountability, including prosecutions for nationals involved in SEA (UNSCR 1820 OP 7, UNSCR 1888 OP 21, UNSCR 1960 OP 16, UNSCR 2106 OP 15)</li> </ul>



	<b>CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30</b>	<b>UN Security Council Women, Peace &amp; Security Resolutions</b>
<b>Participation</b>	<p>Paras 42 – 47: Draws on obligation of States parties under the Convention to ensure women’s equal representation in public and political life and at international levels (Arts. 7 &amp; 8)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure statutory instruments do not prohibit women’s participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution (Paras 29-33 also address participation in prevention more broadly)</li> <li>• Ensure women’s civil society organizations are included in all peace initiatives</li> <li>• Provide leadership training to women for roles in post-conflict political processes</li> <li>• Third-party States to include women in senior positions in mediation and negotiation processes</li> </ul>	<p>Participation is addressed in relation to multiple issues across the resolutions. In particular,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• States, UN Secretary-General and heads of regional organizations to ensure and improve representation and involvement of women and support for women’s initiatives in prevention, management and resolution of conflict, including mediation (UNSCR 1325 OP 1, 2, 8 (b); UNSCR 1820 OP 12; UNSCR 1888 OP 16, 17; UNSCR 1889 Op 1, 15; UNSCR 2106 OP 5)</li> <li>• States, UNSG, Special Envoys to focus more attention on women’s leadership and participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding (UNSCR 2122 OP 1, 7)</li> </ul>
<b>Access to Education, Employment and Health, and Rural Women</b>	<p>Paras 48 – 52: Draws on the Convention’s provisions to eliminate discrimination in the areas of education, health, employment and particular obstacles facing rural women (Arts. 10, 11, 12, 14)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop specific programmes to ensure girls’ access to education at multi-levels post-conflict</li> <li>• Ensure economic recovery strategies promote gender equality and address women’s role in the formal and informal sectors</li> <li>• Ensure the provision of sexual and reproductive health care and provision of services for HIV prevention, treatment and support</li> </ul>	<p>The resolutions address the need for women’s access to health and wider services, and to economic opportunities. Provisions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• States, UN entities and financial institutions to develop and strengthen the provision of non-discriminatory health services to address sexual violence (UNSCR 1820 OP 13; UNSCR 1888 OP 13) and violence (UNSCR 2106 OP 19, 20; UNSCR 2122 OP 11)</li> <li>• States, UNSG, international and regional organizations to enhance women’s participation in economic decision-making in recovery processes; to design strategies responding to socio-economic needs such as income generating activities (UNSCR 1889 OP 1, 10, 15)</li> </ul>
<b>Displacement, Refugees and Asylum Seekers</b>	<p>Paras 53 – 57: Draws on applicability of the Convention to all stages of the displacement cycle, including forced displacement, refugees, asylum seeking and statelessness (Arts. 1, 2, 3, 15)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take preventive measures to protect against forced displacement and violence against women and girls</li> <li>• Address multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and investigation of the same, address the risks and needs affecting displaced women and girls</li> <li>• Promote participation and inclusion of women in all decision-making processes relating to humanitarian assistance and management of displacement</li> </ul>	<p>The resolutions address the situation of women and girls displaced by the conflict as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All actors involved in peace negotiation to ensure a gender perspective is applied in all repatriation, resettlement, reintegration initiatives; ensure the protection of civilians in camps; women’s needs to be addressed in the design of humanitarian assistance (UNSCR 1325 OP 8 (a), 12; UNSCR 1889 OP 12)</li> <li>• UN Secretary-General and UN agencies to develop mechanisms to protect women and girls from violence in UN managed camps for refugees and internally displaced persons (UNSCR 1820 OP 10)</li> </ul>

	<b>CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30</b>	<b>UN Security Council Women, Peace &amp; Security Resolutions</b>
<b>Security Sector Reform (SSR) and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)</b>	<p>Paras 66-69: Draws on the Convention's guarantees of non-discrimination for women and girls</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop DDR programmes in the framework of SSR and ensure that all SSR are gender and age sensitive</li> <li>• Ensure equal access to women to DDR programmes and that women's and girls' needs are specifically addressed</li> </ul>	<p>The WPS resolutions require that the differing needs of women and men are considered in DDR and SSR programming, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DDR planning to be gender-sensitive (UNSCR 1325 OP 13)</li> <li>• Provide full access to and address the needs of women and girls associated with armed groups in DDR programmes (UNSCR 1889 OP 13)</li> <li>• Zero tolerance policy in SSR and vetting, include more women in security institutions (UNSCR 2106 OP 16 (b) )</li> </ul>
<b>Constitutional &amp; Electoral Reform</b>	<p>Paras 70 – 73: Draws on the Convention's provisions that national constitutions embody the principle of equality (Arts. 1-5 (a), 15)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure women's equal participation in constitution drafting processes and that legislation embodies women's human rights as provided for in the Convention</li> <li>• Ensure women's equal representation in elections, including through the use of temporary special measures</li> <li>• Adopt zero tolerance policy to violence and intimidation of women participating in public life</li> </ul>	<p>The WPS resolutions promote women's and girls' equality and rights with respect to constitutional and electoral processes and specifically require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attention to a gender perspective and the protection of women's human rights in the constitution and within the electoral system (UNSCR 1325, OP 8 (c) )</li> <li>• Women's full participation and safety in all phases of electoral processes (UNSCR 2122 OP 8)</li> </ul>
<b>Access to Justice</b>	<p>Paras 38 (a, b, c, f), 74 - 81: Draws on provisions of the Convention on equality of women before the law and the need to address all violations of women's human rights, including underlying structural sex and gender-based discrimination, in all facets of post-conflict accountability and rule of law reforms (Arts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (a), 15)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit amnesties for gender-based violations</li> <li>• Ensure that judicial and non-judicial transitional justice mechanisms promote women's human rights, are informed by the participation of women in all aspects of design and implementation and address gender-based violations</li> <li>• Ensure gender-sensitive investigation procedures and services are available in security and justice sectors to respond to violence against women and girls, tackle impunity for these violations</li> <li>• Provide for remedies tailored to women's human rights and needs, tackle stigma and discrimination, provide legal aid and measures that promote access to justice</li> </ul>	<p>All of the resolutions draw from their basis in international humanitarian law to promote access to justice. Some set out specific provisions in this regard, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• States (and in some cases all parties to conflict) to fulfil responsibility to end impunity and prosecute sexual and other forms of violence as elements of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity; to ensure that all victims of sexual violence have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice; to exclude sexual and other forms of violence against women from amnesty (UNSCR 1325 OP 11; UNSCR 1820 OP 4; UNSCR 2122 OP 1, 12, 13, 14)</li> <li>• States to undertake legal and judicial reform to ensure access to justice and redress for sexual violence (UNSCR 1888 OP 6)</li> <li>• States, UN and civil society to support national authorities in capacity development of judicial and law enforcement systems; UNSG to deploy a team of experts to assist in this regard (UNSCR 1888 OP 8, 9)</li> <li>• States to support UN entities in provision of expertise on sexual violence to Commissions of Inquiry (UNSCR 2106 OP 9)</li> </ul>

	<b>CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30</b>	<b>UN Security Council Women, Peace &amp; Security Resolutions</b>
<b>The following two issues are addressed by GR30 but not explicitly by the WPS Resolutions</b>		
<b>Nationality and Statelessness</b>	<p>Paras 58-61: Draws on the Convention's requirement for women's equal right with men to acquire, change or retain their nationality (Arts. 1-3, 9)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure measures to prevent statelessness are applied to all women and girls</li> <li>• Protection to be available to stateless women and girls before, during and after conflict</li> <li>• Guarantee access to and replacement of documentation for all women and girls and issued in their own name</li> </ul>	
<b>Marriage and Family Relations</b>	<p>Paras 62-65: Draws on the Convention's requirements to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters pertaining to marriage and family life (Art. 15-16)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and punish forced marriage, forced pregnancy, abortion or sterilization of women and girls in conflict-affected contexts</li> <li>• Adopt legislation to overcome discrimination in women's ownership of property and right to inheritance</li> </ul>	

## SECTION 4:

# ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING

This section provides an overview of the reporting and monitoring mechanisms inherent to both GR30 and the WPS resolutions. It provides guidance on how implementation of GR30 and the WPS resolutions can strengthen and reinforce each other, in particular through reporting.

## INTRODUCTION

There are a range of mechanisms that may be used concurrently to implement GR30 and the WPS resolutions. As outlined in Table B, these are available through the UN human rights system and through the UN Security Council and aspects of the wider UN system.

**TABLE (B):**  
**Reinforcement Mechanisms on GR30 and the WPS Resolutions**

UN Human Rights System	UN Security Council and UN System
States Reporting to the CEDAW Committee	Reporting to the Security Council (i) UN Secretary-General annual report on WPS to the Security Council (covering the WPS Global Indicators) (ii) UN Secretary-General annual report on conflict-related sexual violence to the Security Council
The Human Rights Council (i) The Universal Period Review (ii) Special Procedures	Implementation and Monitoring Tools related to the WPS resolutions (i) National Action Plans for the implementation of the WPS resolutions (ii) Global indicators on WPS

## STATE REPORTING TO THE CEDAW COMMITTEE

GR30 references the WPS resolutions and provides specific recommendations to States parties to ensure that their implementation of the WPS resolutions are compliant with the Convention and encompass measures that advance substantive equality (see Box 5).

As the principal monitoring mechanism of State compliance with the CEDAW Convention, State reporting to the CEDAW Committee is critical to reinforcing the GR30 and WPS resolutions frameworks.

## BOX 5

### General Recommendation No. 30's Recommendations to States Parties on the WPS Resolutions (para 28)

The Committee recommends that States parties:

- a) Ensure that national action plans and strategies to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions are compliant with the Convention, and that adequate budgets are allocated for their implementation;
- b) Ensure that the implementation of Security Council commitments reflects a model of substantive equality and takes into account the impact of conflict and post-conflict contexts on all rights enshrined in the Convention, in addition to those violations concerning conflict-related gender-based violence, including sexual violence;
- c) Cooperate with all United Nations networks, departments, agencies, funds and programmes in relation to the full spectrum of conflict processes, including conflict prevention, conflict, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction to give effect to the provisions of the Convention;
- d) Enhance collaboration with civil society and non-governmental organizations working on the implementation of the UN Security Council agenda on women, peace and security.

The General Recommendation makes the following specific recommendations to States parties in their reporting to the Committee:

- States parties should report on the legal framework, policies and programmes they have implemented to ensure the human rights of women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict.
- States parties should collect, analyse and make available sex-disaggregated statistics, in addition to trends over time, concerning women, peace and security.
- States parties' reports should address actions inside and outside their territory in areas under their jurisdictions, in addition to their actions taken individually and as members of international

organizations as they concern women and conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations.

- States parties are to provide information on the implementation of the UN Security Council agenda on women, peace and security, in particular resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013) and 2122 (2013).
- States parties should specifically report on compliance with any agreed benchmarks or indicators developed as part of that agenda.

Table (C) provides a checklist of questions for States parties to ensure that reports to the CEDAW Committee maximize the reinforcement of the GR30 and WPS resolutions frameworks.

**TABLE (C):**

**Checklist of Questions for States Parties Reporting to CEDAW**

<b>Conflict Prevention</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What early warning systems are in place for the prevention of conflict? Do early warning systems promote the inclusion of women? Are early warning indicators gender sensitive and specific to gender-based violations impacting women?</li><li>• The extent to which women’s formal and informal conflict prevention efforts are supported.</li><li>• What measures have been taken by arms-exporting States parties to ensure that these arms are not being used to commit or facilitate violations of women’s human rights including gender-based violence? Has the State ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and what measures have been taken to implement the Treaty?</li><li>• Detail efforts by States parties, through domestic and foreign policy, for the effective regulation over conventional and illicit arms, including small arms.</li></ul>
<b>Gender-based Violence</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What measures have been taken to prohibit, prevent and punish all forms of conflict-related violence against women and girls perpetrated by State and non-State actors?</li><li>• What measures have been taken to protect civilians from conflict-related sexual violence?</li><li>• Detail processes for standardized data collection on conflict-related violence against women and girls.</li><li>• What legal, medical and psychosocial services are available to victims of conflict-related violence? What measures have been taken to ensure effective access to these services by all women and girls?</li><li>• Detail procedures for ensuring that all humanitarian, military and police personnel contributing to international responses to conflict are appropriately trained in the prevention of sexual violence and codes of conduct on sexual exploitation and abuse. Detail measures through foreign policy, membership of international financial institutional and intergovernmental organizations, to strengthen judicial, health and civil society responses to conflict-related sexual violence.</li><li>• Detail the contribution of States parties to UN efforts to prevent sexual violence in conflict, for example, through funding, personnel and political leadership.</li></ul>
<b>Trafficking</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What measures have been taken by the State party to ensure that migration and asylum policies do not operate to deter or limit opportunities for women and girls fleeing conflict zones to lawfully access asylum, and thereby decrease vulnerability to trafficking and exploitation?</li><li>• What bilateral and multilateral measures have been taken by States to protect the rights of trafficked women and girls and to facilitate the prosecution of perpetrators of trafficking and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)?</li><li>• What measures have been taken to adopt a policy of zero tolerance on trafficking and sexual exploitation and abuse, which also addresses national troops, peacekeeping forces, border police, immigration officials and humanitarian actors?</li></ul>
<b>Participation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What obstacles, including legal, social, political or institutional, exist to women’s participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution?</li><li>• What measures, including temporary special measures, have been taken to ensure women’s equal participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution?</li></ul>

- To what extent are women's civil society organizations included in peace negotiations and post-conflict rebuilding and reconstructions? Detail the measures, including temporary special measures, taken to ensure the inclusion of women's civil society in peace negotiations and post-conflict rebuilding and reconstructions. What training has been provided and to whom to support women's civil society participation and leadership in such processes?
- What numbers of States party negotiation and mediation personnel are female, including at senior levels? What technical assistance have States parties offered through their foreign policy and membership of intergovernmental and regional organizations to promote women's effective participation in conflict prevention, mediation and peacebuilding?

### Access to Education, Employment and Health, and Rural Women

- What measures have been taken to ensure women's and girls' access to education at all levels in post-conflict contexts?
- How do post-conflict economic recovery strategies promote women's participation and equality? Do these policies address women's roles and needs within both the formal and informal sectors? Do they recognize the particular situation of rural and other disadvantaged groups of women, as disproportionately affected by the lack of adequate health and social services and inequitable access to land and natural resources?
- Detail provision for sexual and reproductive healthcare, including access to information, psychosocial support, family planning services, maternal health services, safe abortion services, post-abortion care and HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and support. What measures have been taken to ensure equal access of women and girls to such services?
- What foreign policy and practice, through bilateral and multilateral activity, has been undertaken to ensure women's participation in economic recovery and related decision-making?

### Displacement, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

- What preventative measures have been taken to protect against forced displacement and violence against internally and externally displaced women and girls?
- Do policy and legal responses to displaced populations recognize the gender-specific needs of displaced women and girls? Do these laws and policies recognize the different needs of displaced women and girls at different stages of the displacement cycle, during flight, settlement and return? Do these laws and policies respond to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination faced by different groups of displaced women and girls, including women with disabilities, older women, women with HIV/AIDS, women belonging to ethnic, national, sexual or religious minorities?
- Detail efforts to ensure the protection of civilians, the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, and equal access to supplies and services in camps, located within the State party's territory, bordering States, and through foreign policy and membership of intergovernmental agencies and organizations.

### Security Sector Reform and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)

- What efforts have been taken to ensure that DDR processes are gender sensitive and have been developed in coordination with security sector reform initiatives?
- Detail measures to ensure that perpetrators of conflict-related gender-based violence have been excluded from reformed security sector forces.

- What measures have been taken to ensure that security sector reform results in security sector institutions that are inclusive of women, liaise with women's organizations and respond to women's and girls' gender-specific post-conflict security needs?
- Detail provision for gender-sensitive investigation of sexual and gender-based violence and the prevention of sexual violence within reformed security sector institutions.
- Detail protection measures for women and girls in and near cantonment sites.
- What measures have been taken to ensure that female combatants are included in DDR programmes and that the specific needs of victimized girls within demobilized armed groups have been addressed?

### **Constitutional & Electoral Reform**

- Detail measures taken to ensure registration and voting of women voters. Detail measures, including temporary special measures, for the equal participation of women in all official processes of constitutional and electoral reform.
- What measures are being taken to ensure that reformed constitutions and electoral systems respect women's human rights, prohibit direct and indirect discrimination, and will guarantee the participation of women?
- Detail actions taken, through domestic and foreign policy, to ensure women's safety prior to, and during, elections.

### **Access to Justice (Accountability, Amnesty, Rule of Law reform, Transitional Justice)**

- Do amnesty laws permit impunity for gender-based violence? To what extent have sexual and other forms of gender-based violence been prosecuted as elements of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity?
- What measures are in place to ensure women's equal participation in post-conflict constitutional and legal reform processes?
- How have transitional justice mechanisms ensured the inclusion of women and addressed gender-based violations in their design and implementation?
- Detail procedures for gender-sensitive investigation of conflict-related violence against women. What measures have been taken by the security and justice sectors to end impunity for such violations? What reforms to the legal and judicial sectors have been undertaken to ensure access to justice and redress for sexual violence?
- Detail remedies available to women and girls who are victims of conflict-related sexual violence, as well as measures to ensure women's effective access to such remedies.
- How has accountability for sexual violence in conflict been advanced through the State party's foreign policy and membership of intergovernmental organizations?

### **Nationality & Statelessness**

- What measures have been taken to prevent Statelessness of women and girls affected by conflict, including the recognition of the equal right of women and men to nationality on the basis of marriage and other family relationships, and the recognition of the particular disadvantages faced by women in accessing consular assistance and necessary documentation to establish citizenship?

### **Marriage and Family Relations**

- What measures have been taken to prevent, investigate and punish gender-based violations such as forced marriage, forced pregnancies, abortions or sterilization in conflict-affected areas?
- Detail gender-sensitive legislation and policies to guarantee women's inheritance and effective access to land in post-conflict contexts.



## How GR30 and the WPS Resolutions Can Reinforce Each Other in the CEDAW Cycle

The Committee has referenced and called for implementation of GR30 and the WPS resolutions in its Concluding Observations (see Box 6).

The Committee has also referenced WPS resolutions and GR 30 in its List of Issues submitted to the State party before the Committee and the State party meet for the constructive dialogue (see Box 7). During the constructive dialogue, the Committee further probes State implementation of GR30 and the WPS resolutions.

Civil society plays a strong role in supporting the implementation of CEDAW and the WPS resolutions, for example, through playing a role in the monitoring of progress by States. Civil society organizations may submit ‘Shadow Reports’ to the Committee, which offer information on national-level progress and may be used to strengthen concurrent monitoring of the implementation of GR30 and the WPS resolutions. United Nations entities also have an important role in the implementation of GR30 and WPS resolutions, including through reports

### BOX6

#### Example of Committee’s Concluding Observations

In its Concluding Observations in July 2014 regarding India’s State party report, the Committee called upon the State party to ensure the inclusion of women in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in line with UNSCR 1325 and GR 30. It also reaffirmed that the State party’s extra-territorial obligations extend to actions affecting human rights, regardless of whether the affected persons are located on its territory, as indicated in the Committee’s general recommendation Nos. 28 and 30. See also the Committee’s Concluding Observations in relation to the State party reports of the Central African Republic (July 2014), Iraq (February 2014) and Syria (July 2014).

submitted to the Committee in relation to the reports of States parties.

### BOX7

#### Example of Committee’s List of Issues

The Committee’s List of Issues submitted to the Central African Republic stated:

“Please provide information on steps taken by the State party in rebuilding the country after years of conflict to promote women’s rights. In particular indicate how gender equality and the provisions of the Convention have been included in the 2008 inclusive political dialogue, the 2003 National Dialogue and the Peace Agreements in line with Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820” (2009).

“Please provide information on women’s participation at the decision-making level in the peace process and in peacebuilding, in conformity with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security. Please also indicate how the State party envisages applying the provisions of the Convention, through, among other things, the integration of gender concerns into peacebuilding projects, consistent with general recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations” (2013).

## THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

There are procedures and mechanisms under the Human Rights Council that can be used to support implementation of GR30 and WPS issues. These include:

Universal Periodic Review (UPR) – The UPR is a State-driven process in which UN Member States are asked about implementation of their human rights treaty obligations, including CEDAW. The UPR provides

an opportunity for States to also be examined on their activities to implement GR 30 and the WPS resolutions.

**Special Procedures** – The Special procedures are made up of special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups that monitor, examine, advise and report on thematic issues or human rights situations in specific countries. The work of the special procedures also provides an opportunity to examine implementation of GR 30 and WPS resolutions. The Special Rapporteur on violence against

women, its causes and consequences, has presented a number of reports on violence against women in armed conflict to the Human Rights Council and, on occasion, to the UN Security Council. Since 2003, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, has referenced the WPS resolutions. States engaging with the Special Rapporteur, either through, for example, individual complaints or hosting country visits, can report on progress made in implementing GR30 and the WPS resolutions.

## REPORTING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The WPS resolutions have established reporting measures that can be used to mutually reinforce implementation of GR30 and the WPS agenda:

**Report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security** – The UN Secretary-General submits an annual report on WPS to the Security Council. The report provides an overview on progress towards implementation of the WPS resolutions and is presented and discussed during the annual open debate on WPS held by the Security Council in October each year. States are called on to provide information for these reports and can provide examples of measures taken at national levels to implement GR30 and the WPS resolutions.

**Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence-The Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA)** established under UNSCR 1960 (2010) monitors prevalence of sexual violence by all parties to armed conflict. Monitoring analysis is reported on in the Secretary-General's WPS report focused on sexual violence, which is also presented to the Security Council in an open debate on sexual violence annually. This reporting reinforces implementation of the provisions dealing with sexual violence of the WPS resolutions and in GR30. In addition, under UNSCR 1960 (2010), the UN Security Council may consider reports of sexual violence in conflict as part of its sanctions regime on States. Sanctions may act to prevent and deter sexual violence and such measures provide a means to ensure that provisions on sexual violence in both sets of frameworks are reinforced.

## IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING TOOLS RELATED TO THE WPS RESOLUTIONS

Through the Secretary-General's annual WPS reports and through Presidential Statements of the Security Council, two key monitoring and accountability tools on WPS have been created through which both frameworks can be implemented and monitored:

**National Action Plans for the implementation of the WPS resolutions -National Action Plans (NAPs) on WPS** have been adopted as a means for States to practically implement the synergies that exist between the WPS

resolutions and GR30. Implementation of GR30 and the WPS resolutions can be strengthened and reinforced through inclusion of the substantive equality provisions of CEDAW and the specific recommendations of GR30 into the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of NAPs on WPS. Specific recommendations on thematic women, peace and security issues available from GR30 can be drawn into and adapted into the context of State-level national action planning.

Through his reports to the Security Council, the Secretary-General has encouraged the adoption by States of NAPs to enhance national-level implementation of the WPS resolutions. GR30 recommends that States ensure that NAPs are compliant with the Convention and are supported by adequate budgets, and the Committee has made recommendations to States parties on NAP implementation (see Box 8).

A means to concurrently implement CEDAW, GR30 and the WPS resolutions is to ensure that action plans and other national strategies on WPS jointly address and implement the provisions of both frameworks. NAPs such as those by Australia (2012-2018), Uganda (2008) and the UK (2014-2017) underline how the WPS resolutions build on the Convention and make clear the connections between the State's CEDAW commitments and drafting WPS NAPs.

Provisions from CEDAW can also be drawn directly into the NAP. The Bosnia and Herzegovina NAP developed in January 2010 acknowledges and draws together the State's obligations under CEDAW and the WPS resolutions. It draws into the NAP recommendations made by the Committee to the State in its previous reporting periods, noting the linkages between these recommendations and UNSCR 1325. In particular, the

NAP utilises the Committee's recommendation on conflict-related sexual violence to frame the NAP's response to this issue.

Global Indicators on WPS resolutions – The set of 26 'global indicators' adopted under UNSCR 1889 (2009) (see Box 3) enable common reporting by States and UN entities. They can be used to mutually monitor and reinforce both frameworks as States report on the global indicators through both the UN Secretary-General's annual report and CEDAW State reporting.

#### BOX 8

##### Example of Committee's Concluding Observations

In its Concluding Observations in February 2014 regarding Sierra Leone's State party report, the Committee welcomed the adoption of a NAP on UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1820 by the Government. The Committee recommended the State party: (1) To ensure full implementation of the National Action Plan on Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), including by providing it with adequate resources.

UN WOMEN IS THE UN ORGANIZATION  
DEDICATED TO GENDER EQUALITY AND  
THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN. A  
GLOBAL CHAMPION FOR WOMEN AND  
GIRLS, UN WOMEN WAS ESTABLISHED  
TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS ON  
MEETING THEIR NEEDS WORLDWIDE.

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. It stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women's leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women's economic empowerment; and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.



220 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10017, USA  
Tel: 646-781-4400  
Fax: 646-781-4444

[www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)  
[www.facebook.com/unwomen](https://www.facebook.com/unwomen)  
[www.twitter.com/un\\_women](https://www.twitter.com/un_women)  
[www.youtube.com/unwomen](https://www.youtube.com/unwomen)  
[www.flickr.com/unwomen](https://www.flickr.com/unwomen)