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Cross Sector Task Force 1325

# REPORT

IMPLEMENTATION OF IRAQ NATIONAL  
ACTION PLAN FOR UNSCR 1325

2014 - 2018



EuroMed Feminist Initiative  
المبادرة النسوية الأوروبية  
Initiative Féministe EuroMed



Kingdom of the Netherlands



UNITED NATIONS





# REPORT

## IMPLEMENTATION OF IRAQ NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR UNSCR 1325

2014 - 2018

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*This report is an outcome of a collective work of 23 Ministries and Civil Society Organizations. It has been supported by the Secretariat of the Cross-Sector Task Force 1325 and verified by an Advisory Committee composed of the Legal Advisor to the President of Iraq, Deputy Minister of Justice, Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Director General of Sustainable Development in Ministry of Planning, the Legal advisor to the National Committee for the Advancement of Iraqi Women and the Coordinator of the CSTF 1325.*

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Most of all, we hope this work has contributed to an improved situation for women on the ground, who are strong actors for change.

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July, 2018

### Federal Iraq

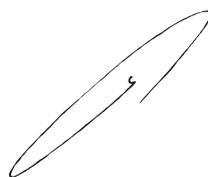


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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<b>BpfA</b>	Beijing Platform for Actions	<b>MoJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>CAW</b>	Committee for the Advancement of Women	<b>MoMA</b>	Ministry of Martyrs and Anfal
<b>CBO</b>	Community Based Organization	<b>MoP</b>	Ministry of Planning
<b>CBS</b>	Central Bureau for Statistics	<b>MoP</b>	Ministry of Peshmerga
<b>CEDAW</b>	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	<b>MoSAL</b>	Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization	<b>MoY</b>	Ministry of Youth
<b>CSTF</b>	Cross Sector Task Force	<b>MP</b>	Member of Parliament
<b>EBL</b>	Executive Body for Literacy	<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>FPD</b>	Family Protection Department	<b>NAP</b>	National Action Plan
<b>FRO</b>	Foreign Relations Office	<b>NDP</b>	National Development Plan
<b>DoFR</b>	Department of Foreign Relations	<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>GD</b>	General Directorate	<b>NRC</b>	National Reconciliation Committee
<b>GE</b>	Gender Equality	<b>NSA</b>	National Security Apparatus
<b>GU</b>	Gender Unit	<b>NSS</b>	National Security Service
<b>HCW</b>	High Council of Women	<b>OR</b>	Operation Room
<b>HR</b>	Human Rights	<b>PSL</b>	Personal Status Law
<b>HRC</b>	Human Rights Commission	<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>IC</b>	International Conventions	<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
<b>IED</b>	Improvised Explosive Device	<b>SCRD</b>	Supreme Committee for Relief of Displaced
<b>IDP</b>	Internally Displaced Person	<b>TD</b>	Training Department
<b>IHCHR</b>	Iraq High Commission for Human Rights	<b>ToT</b>	Training of Trainers
<b>INGO</b>	International Non-Governmental Organization	<b>UNAMI</b>	United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
<b>JC</b>	Judicial Council	<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>KR-I</b>	Kurdish Region of Iraq	<b>UNSCR</b>	United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325
<b>KRG</b>	Kurdish Regional Government	<b>VAW</b>	Violence Against Women
<b>MENA</b>	Middle East and North Africa	<b>WC</b>	Women's Committee
<b>MoD</b>	Ministry of Defence	<b>WPU</b>	Women Protection Unit
<b>MoDM</b>	Ministry of Displacement and Migration	<b>WR</b>	Women's Rights
<b>MoE</b>	Ministry of Education	<b>UNMAS</b>	United Nations Mine Action Service
<b>MoF</b>	Ministry of Finance		
<b>MOFA</b>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs		
<b>MoH</b>	Ministry of Health		
<b>MoHE</b>	Ministry of Higher Education		
<b>Moi</b>	Ministry of Interior		

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

Iraq is a single federal, independent and fully sovereign State in which the system of government is republican, representative, parliamentary, and democratic.

The Iraqi Constitution of 2005 provides that: “The federal powers shall consist of the legislative, executive, and judicial powers, and they shall exercise their competencies and tasks on the basis of the principle of separation of powers<sup>1</sup>. The federal legislative power shall consist of the Council of Representatives and the Federation Council<sup>2</sup>. The federal executive power shall consist of the President of the Republic and the Council of Ministers and shall exercise its powers in accordance with the Constitution and the law<sup>3</sup>. The judicial power is independent. The courts, in their various types and levels, shall assume this power and issue decisions in accordance with the law.<sup>4</sup>”

Iraq is a member of the United Nations and a founding member of the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Non-Aligned Movement.

The total population is estimated to be 37,139,519 for year 2017<sup>5</sup> comprising of different ethnic components: Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen, Chaldeans, Assyrians, Sabeans, Mandaeans, Armenians, and Yezidis.

The Iraqi Constitution recognizes the Kurdistan Region as a federal autonomous region along with its existing authorities. The Kurdistan Region includes four governorates: Duhok, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, and Halabja<sup>6</sup>. The population of the Kurdistan Region is estimated at 5,754,770 for year 2017.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Section Three, Federal Powers, Article 47

<sup>2</sup> Section Three, Chapter 1, Article 48

<sup>3</sup> Section Three, Chapter 2, Article 66

<sup>4</sup> Section Three, Chapter 3, Article 87

<sup>5</sup> Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning, Republic of Iraq (website: [www.cosit.gov.iq](http://www.cosit.gov.iq)): Population indicators and estimates (2015-2030).

Link: <http://cosit.gov.iq/ar/2013-01-31-08-43-38> (retrieved on 7th October 2018).

<sup>6</sup> On January 1, 2014, The Iraqi Cabinet made Halabja Iraq's nineteenth governorate. On 13 March 2014, Halabja was officially approved by the KRG, as the fourth governorate in Kurdistan Region.

<sup>7</sup> Kurdistan Region Statistics Office, Ministry of Planning, Kurdistan Regional Government (website: [www.krso.net](http://www.krso.net))

Link: <http://www.krso.net/Default.aspx?page=article&id=1680&l=1>

<sup>8</sup> Council of Ministers order N: 138/2017 issued on 27th December 2017.

## BACKGROUND

Iraq has faced a challenging security context, coupled with an economic crisis, large-scale military operations and a mass displacement of millions of people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. In this context, the overall situation for women and girls has become a major concern.

To address these concerns, the governments in Federal Iraq and Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I), and women's rights organizations engaged in a consultative process with the civil society, security sector, gender experts, experts in the field of women, peace and security, stakeholders from relevant Ministries, members of the two parliaments and legal experts. They established a Cross-Sector Task Force (CSTF), which worked collaboratively from 2012 - 2014 to develop Iraq's first National Action Plan (NAP) to implement the UNSCR 1325. Adopted in April 2014, it also became the first NAP on UNSCR 1325 in the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA).

The Iraqi Cross Sector Task Force has exerted constant efforts to implement, monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the NAP. In the process of implementation, 23 Ministries and Institutions from Federal Iraq and Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) got readily involved and developed their own Ministerial Plans and platforms in the frame of the NAP. The Cross-Sector Task Force was formalized in December 2017<sup>8</sup> in order to enhance the structuralizing of this common work. With the same order, the Operation Room was established as a Secretariat and a General Coordinator was appointed.

The added value of the NAP is that collaborative and consultative processes ensured broad ownership. Furthermore, the common work on its development and implementation provided space for all involved to enhance skills and increase capacities in the field of women's rights. It also allowed them to understand the interconnected nature of women participation in decision-making and building peace and security.

## METHODOLOGY

This report aims at providing an overview of the level of implementation of the NAP on the UNSCR 1325 in a changing and challenging security environment during the NAP period 2014-2018. It strives to capture main achievements, identify challenges and gaps and provide recommendations for the development of the second NAP. It endeavors to highlight the process of development and implementation, and lessons learned, as the strength and broad ownership of the process has had a tangible effect on the content of the NAP. Analyzing the achievements, as well as the challenges and the gaps in the implementation, helps the CSTF in addressing them during the development of the second NAP.

The report shed some light on the level of ownership, namely allowing the involvement of a remarkable number of State actors and the benefits of this collaborative effort. It highlights the process, which has been a driving engine, a learning experience for all actors involved, and a tool for an inclusive gender sensitive peace building as well as for strengthening the status of gender equality and women's rights in general. The report also tries to capture developments in the field of capacity building and raising awareness of the UNSCR 1325 among the implementing actors.

As this is the first report on implementation of a NAP 1325 in the region, the report strives to provide recommendations for the development of the second NAP.

The report has been developed in three phases:

- A desk review, including data collection, from both ministerial and civil society reports
- A qualitative phase of interviews and focus group discussions with concerned actors, and a quantitative phase based on a questionnaire. Consultations with 23 Ministerial Follow-Up Teams and 45 civil society organizations and networks. Preparatory work in the form of two trainings and two workshops on institutional evaluation and follow-up has been completed in order to facilitate the provision of data.
- Draft Review. A committee of high level officials and specialists was assigned by the Secretary General of the Ministers Council, a Chair of CSTF. It included the legal advisor to the President of Iraq, Deputy Minister of Justice, Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Director General of Sustainable Development in Ministry of Planning, the legal advisor to the National Committee for the Advancement of Iraqi Women and the coordinator of the CSTF coordinator. The committee's main mission has been to review the report, share its observations, guide the CSTF work and streamline the drafting pathways. For this purpose, the committee held a meeting at the office of President of the Republic on 26/6/2018. This was followed by the review and ratification phase through the CSTF and the Council of Ministers.

## CHAPTER 2

# IMPACT OF THE CONFLICT ON WOMEN

Iraq has experienced a series of armed conflicts and violence in the past decades, notably the Iran–Iraq war (1980–1988), the Gulf war (1990–1991) and the US-led invasion (2003–2011). Iraq also suffered years of economic sanctions that additionally contributed to impoverishment of the country. The US-led invasion resulted in the destruction of national institutions, the rise of tribal and sectarian social trends and conservative religious political parties, as well as the rise of extremist and terrorist groups such as the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). The conflict with ISIL exacerbated the refugee and Internally Displaced Persons' crisis in Iraq. All these factors challenge the reconstruction of a post-war governance system after 2011.

Iraq has experienced a crisis of several displacements. This includes the displacement of 227,971 Syrian refugees who fled the war in Syria, of whom 96% sought refuge in the KR-I; an internal displacement of over 3 million Iraqis who have fled areas controlled by ISIL; as well as the refugee population in the country ("Iraq Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2017-2018 In Response to the Syrian Crisis" 3RP, 2017-2018). More specifically, it is estimated that there are 3.2 million internally displaced people (IDPs) and almost 460,000 returnees in Iraq. Moreover, figures indicate that up to 8.2 million Iraqis require immediate protection assistance due to violence and war (Global Protection Cluster, 2016).

This situation has impacted women disproportionately and has led to them being denied access to fundamental rights. According to the statistics of the Ministry of Planning, 1.5 million displaced women and girls are subject to serious violations and live in exceptional and harsh circumstances. As per International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in (2015) female IDPs face more restrictions on their safety than men. In poor living conditions, displaced women and girls lack security, and lack access to facilities, clean water and sanitation, which makes them more vulnerable. Furthermore, women's participation in management within IDP camps is very low, which contributes to failure in addressing their needs adequately. Still 91% of the camps committees are without women.

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is prevalent in alarming rates. Women and girls who have been living in areas under ISIL control have been exposed to violations, kidnappings, sexual slavery, rape, and other forms of conflict-related sexual violence. Moreover, the protracted situation of internally displaced persons has led families and host populations to use negative coping strategies because of the prolonged situation of uncertainty. For example, women and girls have experienced greater restrictions, and while meant to protect them, these restrictions further diminish their livelihood opportunities and weaken their social positioning.

Displacement increased already "high rates of family violence, honor crimes, sexual exploitation, harassment and early forced marriage that existed prior to the recent conflict" (Global Protection Cluster, 2016: 4). Due to strong patriarchal culture and tradition, the victims suffer a double trauma: the assault itself, and the social stigma and shame associated with the assault. Furthermore, the judicial system is not yet adapted to adequately address the perpetrators of violence against women in war and conflict, as the blame is usually put on the victim rather than on the perpetrator. Moreover, the female-headed households, widows, women with disabilities and adolescent girls, have become even more vulnerable. According to UNOPS, the estimated number of widows alone is about 4 million.

Since 2016, the Department of Health (DoH) has been responsible for Public Health Centre (PHC) services in refugee camps. Although the goal is to integrate "camp-based PHC into the national system" (3RP, 2017-2018: 4), they are still dependent on support from United Nations (UN) organizations such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Protection services such as child protection and SGBV are also offered to refugees through local organizations as the financial crises have hit the governmental sector. This has greatly affected access to basic services such as psychosocial assistance to the most vulnerable segments of the population – women and girls.

Various studies and policy reports have highlighted a need to come up with better livelihood solutions and address key challenges faced by women during their displacement. The overall social and economic context leaves women and moreover IDP women and refugees, with no social or economic capital to become self-employed.

The unemployment rate for males 15-24 years old is around 20.1% in 2016, compared with 38% for females. When it comes to economic activity, for the population over 15 years old, 72.1% of the males are economically active, compared with only 14.5% of the females. This indicates that women are still not accessing the labor market on an equal basis, and they are even excluded in some cases (The Central Statistical Organization of Iraq 2016).

The collapse of the social security network has impacted the social and economic status of women. The Iraqi Constitution states that women enjoy equal rights to employment without discrimination. However, Iraqi legislation itself still contains discriminative provisions that, when paired with prevailing gender stereotypes and social attitudes, still limit women's

economic choices and make the face of poverty predominantly female. Female heads of households, the poor, the unemployed, the widows, and the internally displaced, lack access to adequate financial resources and social benefits like social security, pensions, and food distributed through the Iraqi governmental system.

Statistics from 2014 show that only 39.9% of females have mobile phones compared to 60.1% of males. 17.66% of males have access to the internet, compared to 8.59% females. This indicates that women still face more barriers than men in ITC and access to information. When it comes to illiteracy rates, according to 2016 statistics, only 9.4% of males are illiterate compared with 21.7% of females.

Protection of women and their rights is tightly connected with their participation in decision-making. Even if the Constitution provides for a quota of 25% representation of women in the parliament and impliedly, in various public institutions, women continue to be marginalized and under-represented in political decision-making at national and local levels, in the judiciary, economy, media, independent commissions and in the reconciliation committees and camps management. Some improvement has been noted in the security sector, however, at the level of civil peace, the role of women is still limited to the civil society organizations. Political parties are lacking gender equality policies to ensure women's effective and meaningful participation within their structures, notably on high decision-making level..

Women in KR-I enjoy higher levels of participation in politics and socio-economic life, more equal laws, better opportunities for civil society organizations, a more positive perception of women's rights in terms of political participation and gender equality in society, more empowerment, better reproductive health and more labor market participation. This favorable situation is reflected in the participation in Parliament, legislative, provincial and governorate councils. In terms of legal status, the KR-I introduced a number of gender-sensitive laws and amendments favoring women, strengthening their status to better protect their rights. These changes include the amendment of the federal Penal code No. (111) of 1969 concerning "honor" crimes, as well as the legislation on domestic violence No. 8 of 2011, which criminalized female genital mutilation and considered it a crime punishable by law as well as the imposition of restrictions and conditions to obtain an authorization to marry more than one woman (polygamy) through amending the Federal Personal Status Law No. 188 of 1959 pursuant to Act No. 15 of 2008 and a number of other laws. Similarly, the recent decision of the Kurdistan Regional Parliament amending the Rules of Procedure to include a woman as one of the Deputy Speakers of the Regional Parliament is a step in the right direction. Besides

these legislative changes, the KRG has established new institutions and bodies to address specifically gender issues, namely special domestic violence courts in the three Kurdish Governorates, and a Special Directory to follow up gender-based violence in the region.

However, there are still many obstacles concerning women's rights and empowerment in KR-I, preventing considerable progress in the area of gender equality, not least in terms of awareness. Among these barriers, we can mention "honor" crimes, which are believed to be increasing, despite the tightening of the legislation on the matter, the slow implementation of new policies and laws, and a still predominantly male political and institutional leadership that prevents the representation of women and the implementation of gender-sensitive policies and laws.

The political and economic participation of women in both Federal Iraq and KR-I continues to be limited by the weight of customs and tradition, the lack of awareness in society, the economic dependence of women on men, family responsibilities such as the care of children, and the influence of conservative and religious authorities on society. These concerns were shared by the Iraqi government during the donor conference on Reconstruction in Iraq, held on 14/02/2018 in Kuwait.

## CHAPTER 3

# INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL POLICY AND STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

### 3.1. TREATIES, CONVENTIONS AND RELEVANT PROTOCOLS ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO WHICH IRAQ IS A PARTY

Iraq is a party to various international conventions and protocols related to human rights and thus a part of the international framework to protect human rights and fulfil the international obligations as per these conventions. Iraq is a signatory of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, Arab Charter on Human Rights, Convention of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on Combating International Terrorism, The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, The Protocol against Illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition. In addition, Iraq is a party of ILO conventions, notably the Convention on the Abolition of Forced Labor, Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination in Respect of Employment, Convention on the Prohibition of Forced Labor, Equal Pay Convention, Minimum age Convention, Convention on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

### 3.2. INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Iraq's national policies and strategies on women, peace and security are governed by the UNSC resolution 1325 and the subsequently adopted resolutions on conflict-related sexual violence, women's participation, and gender perspectives.<sup>9</sup> In light of the damaging repercussions of ISIL violence in certain provinces in Iraqi society and military operations that affected all members of society (with the greatest impact on the most vulnerable, particularly women), developmental effective solutions have become a necessity after liberalization processes, in a manner that focuses on rebuilding both cities and humans, in accordance to global and comprehensive approaches. Iraq therefore uses a broader policy framework addressing women and girls in both armed conflicts and post conflict development that includes the Joint Communique of the United Nations and the Republic of Iraq on Prevention and Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Convention for Eliminating all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA). Their objectives are inter-related, as they all seek to reduce every form of violence against women, and work with the UN member States to find permanent solutions for conflict and lack of security, while noting that the promotion of human rights, the rule of law and reducing the flow of illegal arms are all vital.

### 3.3. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL PROVISIONS

The Iraqi Constitution from 2005 refers in its preamble to the rights of women and children and to spreading culture of diversity. It stipulates in Article 14 equality before the law without discrimination on the basis of sex, and considers of Iraqi nationality anyone born to an Iraqi father or to an Iraqi mother (Article 18/2). Article 16 provides that equal opportunities shall be guaranteed to all Iraqis and that the State shall take the necessary measures to achieve this. Article 20 stipulates that citizens, both women and men, have the right to participate in the public political affairs and to enjoy the political rights including the right to vote, elect and run for office. Article 29/2 ensures protection of motherhood, childhood and the elderly, and the fourth clause prohibits all forms of violence in the family, school and society. Article 30/1 guarantees for the individual social security, health insurance and the basic requirements for living a free, decent life that would provide suitable income and housing. Article 37/3 prohibits slavery and trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation. Furthermore, Article 49/4 stipulates that the electoral law shall aim at having women's representation of not less than 25% of the number of parliamentarians.

However, Article 41 stipulates, "Iraqis are free to adhere to their personal status according to their religion, sects, beliefs or choices". This entails the application of religious rulings of every sect and confession to its followers, some of which are discriminative for women, and stay on the way to annulling such legal provisions that contradict "the established legislation".

The Constitution stipulates the necessity of enacting laws to complement its provisions and to regulate important matters. The constitution entrenches the provision of equality for all and equal opportunities for all Iraqis, the right to exercise freedom of expression, the freedom of the press, and freedom of assembly, as well as peaceful demonstration and the freedom to establish associations and political parties. It also stipulates the prohibition of violence, oppression at home, work and school. However, these laws have not been adopted to date, despite the considerable importance of passing them in the current phase. For example, an important law to protect women, namely the Family Protection Law has not been passed yet. The Independent High Electoral Commission Law as well as the Political Parties Law still need to be amended to enhance a fair and meaningful representation of women in political parties.

#### Legal Provisions

Several legal actions for strengthening women's participation have been approved by the government. An anti-trafficking law was approved together with the formation of the Federal

<sup>9</sup> UNSCRs 1820, 1888, 1889, 196

Committee of several Ministries to implement the 2012 adoption of law on “compensation for victims of terrorism and the martyrs of the army and police”. A law allowing women to work in the security services (Ministry of the Interior and the Intelligence) has been adopted. Furthermore, an action plan has been implemented by the Ministry of Environment for the removal of mines in territories of previous wars. Under discussion are both the change of the prison system and the establishment of modern prisons for women and men, and many local initiatives have taken place to raise awareness of the contents of Resolution 1325. Between 2014-2018, forty-seven laws have been enacted which contribute to the advancement of women.

However, the Iraqi ordinary legal system still includes several discriminatory provisions against women. Even though Iraq has ratified both the CEDAW and the CRC conventions, it has not taken vital steps towards fulfilling its obligations under them and lifting all the reservations. Some laws in Personal Status Law and Penal Code still discriminate against women and perpetuate gender stereotypical roles of women and men, e.g., Article 3, 8, 90 and 91 of the Personal Status Law, and Article 41-1, 377, 380, 398, and 409 of the Penal Code.

The KR-I has remedied with regional laws many discriminatory loopholes against women in this regard, e.g. amendment of the Federal Penal code No. (111) of 1969 concerning “honor” crimes, amending the Federal Personal Status Law No. 188 of 1959 pursuant to Act No. 15 of 2008 on restricting polygamy, and passing a law on Combating Domestic Violence (2011). Still, federal laws are valid throughout the other parts of Iraq and remain unchanged.

The Legal Committee of the CSTF worked between 2014-2018 to identify legal provisions that discriminate against women and hamper the implementation of the UNSCR 1325<sup>10</sup>. They developed a position paper and based on legal analyses recommended amendments to the Penal Code, Personal Status Law, Social Welfare Act and Juvenile Welfare Law.

The position paper has been presented to the CSTF as well and it has been discussed with stakeholders at Parliamentary meetings and during several public national conferences.<sup>11</sup>

Suitable solutions should be adopted to remedy the deficiency in the Iraqi legal system, among others:

- Accelerate the enactment and adoption of laws in line with the Constitution. Amendment to the law of political parties, adoption of social security and protection from domestic violence, to ensure full participation of women in public and political life, empowering them and

promoting their rights.

- Introduce quota of not less than 30% of women representation in all decision-making positions.
- Abrogate Article 41-1 of the Penal Code.
- Abrogate the law that exempts rapists from prosecution or benefit from reduced penalties, if they marry their victims.
- Abrogating Articles 377, 380, 398, 409 of the Penal Code.
- Criminalize sexual harassment in the work place and oblige employers to take preventive measures.
- Prohibit polygamy.
- Prohibit marriage under age 18.
- Grant the wife the right of divorce, (Khulu ) in all cases.
- Grant custody of the child to be jointly shared by both parents.
- Review existing legislation pertaining to women in the light of Iraq’s commitments to the international conventions it ratified. Identify the gaps and take necessary procedures to harmonize national laws with these commitments.

### 3.4. NATIONAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

Iraq has adopted several strategies and policies in regards to the situation of women and the status of women’s rights. They all address different aspects of protection of women and enhance their participation in the reconstruction of the country.

#### 3.4.1. National Strategy to Combat Violence Against Women 2013 – 2017

The national strategy to combat violence against women was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 06/03/2013. The main objective is to serve as a working guide for State institutions and civil society to protect women and ensure their rights as full members of society. It has four areas of intervention: Legislation, Prevention, Protection, and Care. It aims to eliminate all forms of legal discrimination against women and provide them with legal protection, to raise awareness and education of communities about the causes of violence against women and its effects on women, the family, and society, to take measures to provide support and protection for women and girls from all forms of violence, and to improve the quality and level of services provided to victims of violence.

#### 3.4.2. National Strategy for the Advancement of Women 2014-2018

The national strategy for development of Iraqi women was approved by the Council of Ministers on 1/4/2014 for the purpose of empowering women, enhancing their capabilities and raising their status in order to enable their participation in policy- and decision-making in all areas. The strategy aims

<sup>10</sup> Position Paper Legal Committee of CSTF (2016): Proposed Amendments to eliminate legal discrimination of women and implement UNSCR 1325

<sup>11</sup> See Annex 2 CSTF Activities, M&E of implementation of NAP 1325

to create a legislative environment compatible with Articles 8-14 of the Constitution and Iraq's international obligations, to increase enrollment rates of girls in secondary education from 77% to 100%, to develop reproductive health policy, and finally to increase female participation at the labor market and in decision-making positions during peace and conflict. The specialized women's Institutions are supported by resources and have the authority to perform their duties in the best possible way.

### **3.4.3. National Strategy for Advancement of the Status of Women in the Kurdistan Region (2017-2027)**

The objective of the National Strategy is to empower women, improve gender equality and integrate women's rights in the institutional and governmental structure and policies. The strategy was built on the assessment of the opportunities to achieve strategic objectives, as the presence of political will and support, the existence of women's machinery, the existence of laws and policies that support women's issues and the presence of civil society organizations.

### **3.4.4. Implementation Plan on the Joint Communiqué of the Republic of Iraq and the United Nations on Prevention and Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (2018- 2019)**

In September 2016 a Joint Communiqué was signed between the United Nations and the Government of Iraq on the prevention of and response to conflict-related sexual violence. Iraq took a number of positive steps, including the appointment of two high-level focal points at the federal level as well as in KRG, to work together in the implementation phase and serve as contact with the United Nations and international community. In 2018 a specific 18 months plan for the implementation of the United Nations/Iraq Joint Communiqué was initiated by the Federal Government, KRG and UNAMI, building on the NAP activities related to sexual violence and protection. The Joint Communiqué elaborates six priority areas, namely supporting legislative and policy reform, ensuring accountability, ensuring the provision of services, engaging tribal and religious leaders, civil society and women's human rights defenders, ensuring that considerations related to sexual violence are adequately reflected in the work of the Iraqi Counter-Terrorism Commission, and raising awareness and deepening knowledge.

### **3.4.5. Strategy of Combating Poverty in Iraq 2018-2022**

This strategy has created a framework for policies and programs aimed at reducing poverty by empowering poor, marginalized and vulnerable groups, raising their living standard in all areas and enhancing their productive capacities as an active community. It is part of a large project that is the fruit of constructive cooperation with the World Bank, which

seeks to achieve various political, economic and statistical objective

The strategy envisions interventions in four areas: Income Generating Opportunities, Empowerment, Capacity Building, and Social Security. To achieve these objectives, the strategy encourages coordination of all efforts of government, private sector and civil society.

### **3.4.6. National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022**

The national development plan 2018-2022 was approved by the Council of Ministers on 1 April 2018. Inspired by the NAP 1325, it incorporates a women's empowerment dimension in the pillar of human and social development. It includes areas of women's education, health, economic empowerment, and social contribution. The principles of the reconstruction plan of the liberated areas correspond to the principles in the 3 Ps of the UNSCR 1325 – Protection, Prevention and Participation, and goal 11 of the SDGs "to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable".

In the field of education, proposed objectives are related to the empowerment of women by reducing the drop- out rates of girls and increasing enrollment of girls in primary education, particularly in the rural areas. They also include economic empowerment by enhancing women participation in the labor market and facilitating the access of poor and displaced women as well as heads of households to financial resources. The plan also aimed at improving health services for women and raising their awareness on the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Women's empowerment in the liberated areas from ISIL has also been set as a priority including provision of psychosocial and legal services.

Moreover, Iraqi government recently established a committee to develop a National Strategy for Developing Rural Women in order to pay special attention to their needs.

More recently, the protection strategy defined by the Protection Sector Response in IRAQ 3RP Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2017-2018, has prioritized increasing provision of quality services for refugees in urban, semi- urban and rural areas. The strategy also prioritizes the engagement of communities in identifying their needs; the need to reduce SGBV experienced by women and girls and to improve the services offered to them, as well as the quality of child protection interventions.

Even if many UN agencies and international organizations approach these needs, the government is in urgent need of financial resources to strengthen the protection, enhance participation and provide opportunities for women to economic empowerment in order to strengthen their resilience and security.

## CHAPTER 4

# IRAQ NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

### 4.1. PARTICIPATORY PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAP

The development of the NAP took place in 2012-2014 in a highly participatory process. It was a result of genuine and committed partnerships and cooperation between civil society and decision makers. In 2012, Iraqi women's organizations and networks from Federal Iraq and KR-I formed an Iraqi initiative (I-NAP 1325 Initiative) to focus on the implementation of UNSCR1325. They approached relevant Ministries from the Federal Government and the KRG including the State Ministry of Women Affairs and the High Council for Women in the Kurdistan Region, as well as legislators and legal experts, including the legal adviser of the President, in order to develop a concrete and comprehensive NAP for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325. The common cross-sectorial process led in 2013 to the establishment of a Cross-Sector Task Force (CSTF) composed of representatives from Ministries, members of the two parliaments, legal experts and INAP1325 Initiative. CSTF exchanged practices and knowledge with Nepal and Georgia. Both experiences highlighted that a key element was the early involvement of civil society in all stages, which confirmed that the process was going in the right direction. The development of the NAP became both a means and a goal to enable a broad dialogue on women's role in peace and security, as well as on women's rights and gender equality.



National Roundtable "Why a NAP to implement UNSCR 1325 in Iraq", 19th - 20th October 2012 With Ms. Bandana Rana, Member of Nepal Government's High-Level Steering Committee on UNSCR 1325, Member of CEDAW Monitoring Committee

The CSTF held regular bi-monthly meetings and workshops with women's organizations and networks as well as consultative meetings with service providers and broader

local communities. The purpose was twofold: first to raise awareness of the UNSCR 1325 and get input from the ground on the needs of women, and second to learn how to ensure the implementation of the resolution addressing these needs. The CSTF formed three Sub-Working Committees: Legal, Drafting and Financial. Their work was examined through several validation meetings of the whole CSTF. Concerned decision makers and the general public were regularly informed through press conferences and media outlets.

The **Legal Committee** identified legislation that is hampering the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 in Iraq and proposed a pillar in the NAP aimed at addressing discriminative legislation for women, enabling their participation in peace building.

The **Drafting Committee** developed the draft based on the pillars identified and agreed upon by the work of the CSTF: Protection, Prevention, Participation, Economic empowerment and Legal pillar, as well as Monitoring and Evaluation.

The **Financial Committee** developed a detailed budget estimating the costs of the activities under each pillar.

In November 2013 the final draft of the NAP, with concrete goals, expected results, specific actions, objectively verifiable indicators, time frame as well as division of responsibility with a detailed budget, was finalized and presented by the CSTF to the Minister of Interior of KR-I and the Minister of Women in Baghdad, who in turn presented it to the Prime Minister. Two validation conferences took place in February 2014 in Baghdad and in March 2014 in Erbil.

The NAP was adopted by the Council of Ministers, Resolution No. 164/2014 at their 13th ordinary session on the 1 April 2014, making it the first NAP on implementation of UNSCR 1325 in the MENA region. The legal and economic empowerment pillars were removed but the actions under them were incorporated in the pillars of protection, prevention, and participation. The adoption of the budget was postponed, hampered by deepening economic crises. However, the Ministries were urged to use their own budgets for the implementation.

In 2015, due to the worsened political situation, a one-year Emergency Plan (2015-2016) was developed in cooperation with Alliance 1325 from civil society. It addressed the emerging needs and urgent priorities related to the NAP. The Council of Ministers' Resolution No. 201 approved the Emergency Plan dated 26/5/2015, as a one-year plan to address urgent situations within the framework of the NAP.

The NAP and its one-year Emergency Plan have adopted a holistic approach to the implementation of UNSCR 1325, based on the values of gender equality and universal women's

human rights as per the international women's rights instruments and in line with strategies of Federal Government and KRG to advance women's rights and to combat violence against women.

In May 2015 the CSTF met with the Speaker of Iraqi Parliament in the Parliament in Baghdad and implemented mechanisms at the legislative, executive, presidential, judicial, and civil society levels.<sup>12</sup> In December of the same year CSTF met at the Ministry of Interior, KRG in Erbil and agreed to send a letter to all identified Ministries in the Federal Government and KRG. The letter requested the Ministers to appoint Follow up Teams in their respective Ministries in order to establish their own Ministerial plans. The Follow up Teams have been formed and provided a training on developing their own Ministerial plans for 2016-2017 on the bases of the priorities of the NAP. Through this process, the Ministerial plans have been gathered into a "Master NAP" 2016-2017. The EuroMed Feminist Initiative continued to support the CSTF work while UN Agencies, United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and international community got engaged in supporting the implementation of the NAP through granting governmental and civil society projects, capacity building and improving coordination.

## 4.2. CROSS SECTOR TASK FORCE: STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The CSTF has been the governance body responsible for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation as well as reporting. It is chaired by the Secretary General of the Council of Ministers in Federal Iraq and the Minister of Interior in KRG. The National Committee for the Advancement of Iraqi Women in Baghdad and the High Council of Women in KRG play a major role in supervising the implementation together with the Chairs of the CSTF. Civil society has been structurally included in the whole process of development as well as in implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NAP through the representation in the CSTF of the Alliance 1325 and the 1325 Network.

After adopting the NAP, the CSTF continued to develop its structure and to work for the implementation, follow up, monitoring and evaluation of the NAP in a very challenging context of financial crises and a wave of terrorist violence. An Operation Room 1325 was established with a letter N:513 dated 12/1/2016 issued by the Prime Minister's office (Top Urgent). This letter stressed the necessity of establishing the Special Operations Room to implement the NAP and the

CEDAW Convention, under the supervision of the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers. This action reflects the interest of the Iraqi Government at the highest level to commit to the implementation of the NAP. The Operation Room joined the CSTF and took a leading role in mobilizing actors, spreading knowledge and information among decision makers, Ministries and concerned stakeholders. As a result, in this phase, the number of the CSTF members increased from 12 Ministries and Institutions in 2014 to 23 in December 2017: 15 in Federal Iraq and 8 in KR-I. Their involvement shows the increased political will and understanding that there should be an inclusive approach to peace, where women can't be cast aside and considered only as victims; that their situation needs to be addressed in a comprehensive manner, which the NAP has adopted during its development phase.

The Operation Room 1325 supported the establishment of Follow-up Teams in each Ministry and Institution, headed at the level of Director General. Together with the Alliance 1325, the Operation Room 1325 assisted the Follow up Teams to develop their individual Ministerial plans to fit the priorities, objectives and actions of the NAP and its Emergency Plan. The Follow up Teams have been responsible for the implementation of the NAP in their respective Ministries and have received regular assistance by the Operation Room 1325 as well as civil society.

On 29 November 2016 a Women Empowerment Department was established at the Council of Ministers, with Council of Ministers order N 333/2016. Furthermore, the Committee for the Advancement of Iraqi Women was established on 16 March 2017 by Divan order 31/2017. The chair of the Committee headed the Coordination of the CSTF.

CSTF was formalized with the Council of Ministers Order N: 138/2017 from 27 December 2017. With the same order, the Operation Room 1325 was established as a Secretariat and a General Coordinator was appointed.

After Iraq signed a Joint Communiqué with the UN on prevention and response to conflict-related sexual violence in September 2016, consultations were held with the CSTF as well as with civil society to ensure cooperation in the implementation of the Joint Communiqué and the NAP.

In 2018 the civil society representation in the CSTF was enlarged to allow representation from more alliances and networks. Through them the women's CSOs have the channel to mainstream their demands and expectations, as well as to monitor and share information on the implementation of civil society activities and projects related to the NAP. The structural inclusion of the civil society in the whole process has been of unique added value.

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<sup>12</sup> Annex 5 CSTF Report on Enacting mechanisms for implementation of the Iraqi National Action Plan for UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2015)

## **A) Ministries and Institutions involved in the implementation of Iraq's NAP 1325**

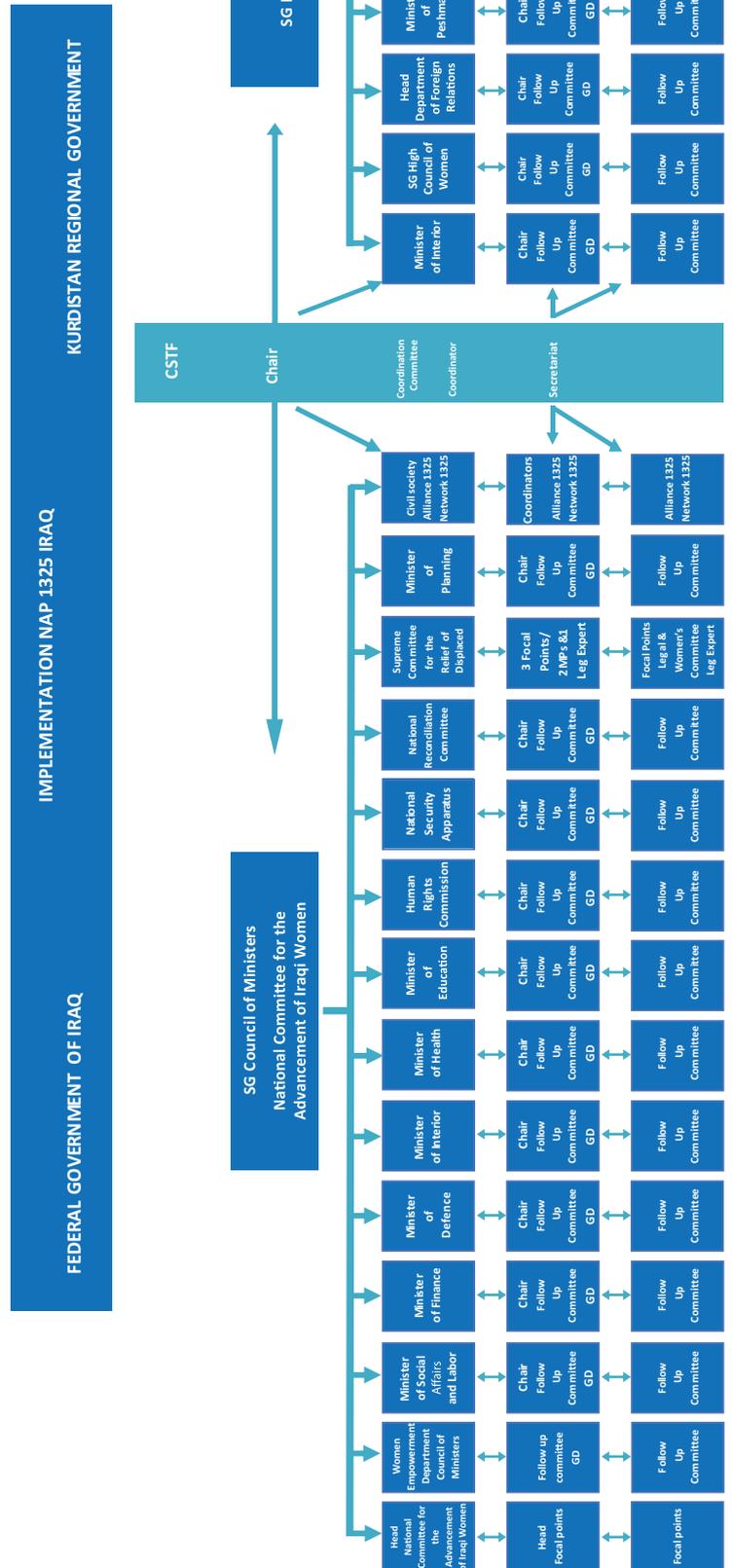
### **Federal Government of Iraq**

National Committee for the Advancement of Iraqi Women  
Women Empowerment Department, Council of Ministers  
Judicial Council  
Ministry of Defence  
Ministry of Interior  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Finance  
Ministry of Planning  
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor  
Ministry of Justice  
Ministry of Displacement and Migration  
Ministry of Education  
Ministry of Health  
National Reconciliation Committee  
National Security Apparatus  
National Security Service  
Supreme Committee for Relief of Displaced  
Human Rights Commission

### **Kurdistan Regional Government**

High Council of Women  
Ministry of Interior  
Ministry of Peshmerga  
Ministry of Justice  
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor  
Ministry of Education  
Department of Foreign Relations  
Ministry of Health  
Ministry of Martyrs and Anfal

## B) Structure of Cross Sector Task Force



### 4.3. NATIONAL ACTION PLAN PILLARS

#### PILLAR I: PARTICIPATION

The overall objective of the first pillar is to increase the representation of women in negotiations, civil peace and political decision-making. It emphasizes the participation of women in decisions-making, in order to contribute to inclusive peace building and maintaining security inclusive of women safety. The pillar includes two strategic goals and seven specific objectives aiming at involving more women in leadership positions of Ministries and government departments, as well as to support women’s participation in the security sector.

##### STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Developing mechanisms to ensure fair and proportional representation, and full participation of women in decision-making positions (legislative, executive and judicial) at both the local and national levels.
2. Ensuring fair and proportional representation, and full participation of women in all reconciliation committees, civil peace councils and peace-building negotiations.

##### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Involving women in drawing, identifying and managing humanitarian activities during the armed conflict and the post-conflict recovery.
- Involving women in decision-making and policy-making on conflict negotiation, resolution and peacekeeping agreements, and initiatives.
- Engaging women from conflict-ridden communities in conflict resolution and prevention in order to achieve sustainable peace.
- Involving returnee women in the reconstruction of their areas of origin.
- Involving, supporting and encouraging displaced women to participate in camps management and in dealing with women’s issues.
- Developing programs for the empowerment of women at the economic and social levels and following up their implementation.
- Ensuring fair proportional representation and full participation of women in all reconciliation committees, in negotiations and peacebuilding.

Despite all the efforts made in this area, promoting women to leadership positions continues to be a challenge and is often met with resistance. In order to achieve this goal, women must be empowered and then entrusted with responsibilities in senior administrative positions that usually lie with men. It thus requires creating a positive environment for empowerment of women. For example, in ministries, senior leadership posts are mostly male-dominated, and there is a large gender gap in favor of men, wherein the number of men in all positions is more than double the number of women. Figure (1) shows the unequal distribution of opportunities between both sexes, as confirmed by the Ministry of Planning.

The reality of the participation of women in government institutions in general and leadership positions in particular varies from one Ministry to another, and according to the nature of their work. While women constitute a large proportion of employees in some Ministries, they do not yet hold senior positions, as is the case in the Ministries of Education, Finance, and Migration and Displaced, to name a few.

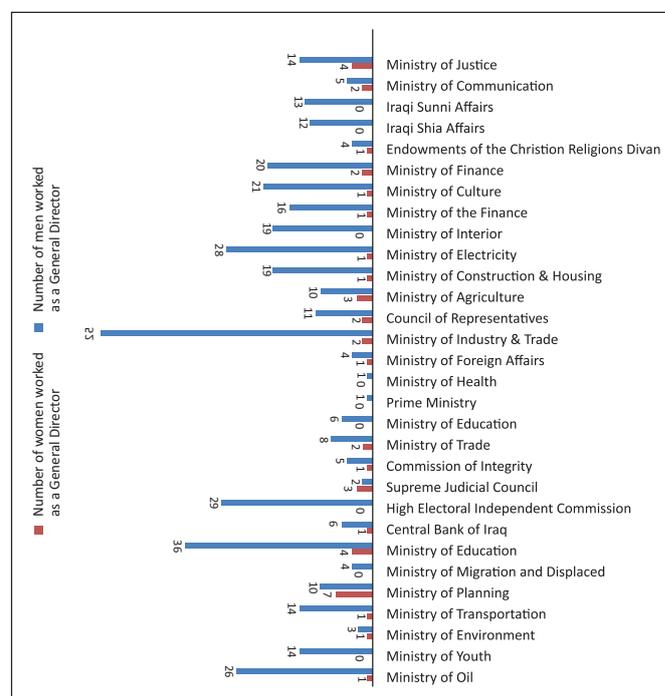


Figure (1)

Directors-generals in ministries according to their gender in 2015

Taking the employment dynamics at the Ministry of Planning as an example of the extent of women's participation, we find that in 2016 the percentage of women holding director-general positions in the Ministry was 36% of all director-general positions, and the percentage of senior female employees was 37% of senior employees in total. The percentage of female PhD holders in the Ministry of Planning was 33% of the Ministry's total number of employees with a doctorate degree, whereas the female holders of an MA degree was 40% of employees with a master's degree.

An analytical study is currently being prepared based on a survey that was carried out on State institutions and should be completed in the first half of 2018.

There is qualitative progress in the participation of women in security Ministries, which may reach the level of excellence in comparison with the other Arab countries. According to the latest statistics, the actual number of women working in the **Ministry of Defense** in both categories (civil and military) is 1,491 female affiliates, among whom one woman is a non-commissioned officer and 537 are distributed across various military ranks. Women have also held senior positions in the civil ranks, with three women appointed as associate director-general, 15 senior directors, 78 associate directors and 772 civil servants of varying staff level

The efforts to support participation were not limited to employing women in the Ministry of Defense. The incorporation of a gender perspective was also established through the creation of the Gender Unit within the Division for Women's Affairs as the body responsible for supporting and developing the work of women affiliated with the Ministry of Defense. The members of the Division and the Gender Unit subsequently joined the CSTF to implement the NAP 1325. There are 32 female liaison officers representing all departments and directorates of the Ministry. They held regular meetings at the Headquarters of the Human Rights Directorate, where they shared views and suggestions on how to create mechanisms and action plans that increase the effectiveness and empowerment of women working in the Ministry of Defense. The aim is to increase effective participation in decision-making positions and in all committees set up within the Ministry. After enabling women to participate in all the activities and events carried out by the Ministry, it was noted that their contribution in the work of the Ministry significantly increased, whether in military or civilian sectors, according to their specialization. The Follow up Committee on NAP 1325 trained staff responsible for the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs), law enforcement officers, members of the Iraqi Army and the armed forces on gender and UNSCR 1325. There has also been focus on enhancing their active participation and empowering

them through workshops and education courses. Some of these workshops were focused on developing the potential of working women and ways of addressing gender-based violence, as well as education and awareness raising on the principles of international humanitarian law. Between 2014-2017 the Ministry hosted 282 development courses for its women employees, with 2,040 female participants. The first military college at the Rustumiya site held two training courses for the preparation of military women personnel ("Marateb") and 60 women were trained. The purpose was to train women volunteers for the coming courses. In 2016, training was provided to the Follow up Team 1325 on how to implement the Emergency plan. The Ministry of Defense has trained its employed women on how to conduct activities and events within the NAP. The trainings included more than 320 female employees. The media team has also participated in all the activities of the Human Rights Directorate and other voluntary work carried out by the Ministry as an initiative by its employees to help the displaced and assist families. The Directorate of Information has issued about 30 articles and essays (roughly) in media outlets affiliated with the Ministry of Defense. Moreover, the Directorate of Information and Moral Guidance has taken part in many actions, activities and achievements that concern the Participation Pillar and what the National Emergency Plan aims at, placing in the media spotlight the laws and regulations pertaining to women, the nature of the relationship between the Resolution pillars and gender, the impact of war on women and children, and the acts of violence and abuses against women in countries experiencing conflicts and wars which were committed by armed terrorist organizations, including looting, oppression, captivity and violation of their rights. The Ministry has additionally trained 60 women agents and prepared them as trainers for future female volunteers qualifying to be peace negotiators.

The **Ministry of Planning** organized educational seminars on Resolution 1325 and the integration of the principles of gender in planning and development. In this regard, two training courses were held in 2016, both organized by the Department of Human Development in cooperation with Operation Room 1325 and CSOS. The aim was to raise awareness about Resolution 1325 and the principles of women's empowerment, as well as mechanisms for participation in decision-making. The first session included 36 female and male employees of middle management, and the second had 22 female and male employees and staff at the same level.

The Ministry of Planning and the National Centre for Administrative Development also carried out capacity-building courses for senior and middle management leaders in order to raise their levels of knowledge and empowerment. 240 senior and middle level female employees, out of 944 in

total participated and benefited from the trainings in 2016. In 2017, 189 female employees of the high and middle leaders, out of total of 357 benefited from these trainings.

The **Central Statistical Organization** carried out ten gender courses for the State Institutions. Furthermore, they provided information to the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, which then provided microcredit for the poor, including poor female breadwinners.

**Ministry of Migration and Displaced** has promoted women to administrative positions by addressing official letters and administrative orders stressing this goal. A coordinating committee with the National Reconciliation Commission was formed and gender indicators have been integrated in the database of the Ministry. Furthermore, educational seminars were organized on gender and UNSCR 1325, emphasizing the importance of women's participation in negotiations and peace-building efforts and targeting wider sections within the higher personnel. The Ministry implemented 22 training courses on UNSCR 1325 and 10 courses on the gender concept, building the capacity of more than 1,000 employees. It played a prominent role in training active displaced women on how to deal with life conditions in their camps, supporting them to participate in the management of these camps, as well. In addition, the Ministry held 4 awareness-raising seminars on the dangers of extrajudicial marriage for about 60 participants. Furthermore, field studies were conducted on the needs of women in the camps and grants were distributed for returnee women to set up small income-generating projects. The Ministry carried out 45 vocational training workshops benefitting over 1100 women. In addition, they issued a decision to include displaced single women in the grants schemes and to send official letters endorsing the inclusion of IDPs in the grants of Ministry of Labor.

In order to follow up the implementation of the National Plan, the CSTF organized a conference in the Iraqi Council of Representatives on 24 May 2015, under the chairmanship of Dr. Salim Al-Jubouri, in which major challenges and opportunities for implementation were presented.

In 2017, the High Council of Women in KR-I in cooperation with the Women Empowerment Organization organized a conference to promote the contribution and representation of women in local government in Sinjar district. The primary objectives of the conference were to emphasize the importance of women's participation and to take into account their perspective in the planning and reconstruction of the country.

**National Reconciliation Commission** held workshops and training courses on management of small businesses

empowering 171 displaced and returnee women from the governorates of Baghdad, Ninewa and Basrah. It collaborated with international organizations and provided courses for women on how to run businesses and improve their economic status, contributing to a capacity building of 75 women. Furthermore, 62 women from 10 governorates were trained on mediation and negotiation in cooperation with UNAMI and UN Women. Altogether 429 women from civil society organizations and women leaders were trained. The Commission held workshops and consultative meetings with 95 women leaders from local communities and civil society organizations to discuss post-conflict security

**Ministry of Interior** has established an Institute for Women's Development, which is affiliated with the Directorate of Training and Rehabilitation. The institute plans to ensure that all services provided by the Ministry are gender responsive and to guarantee the principle of equal opportunities for both women and men. It is responsible for providing vocational training and development opportunities for female employees, and for increasing the number of women at different ranks and occupational positions. The number of female staff is 10,059 (295 officers, 2522 civil servants, 1303 commissioners, 5903 policewomen, 25 students and 11 contractors). UNMAS has undertaken discussions with Mol in order to train female police officers in Explosive Hazard First Response. Many female civilians are already working (mainly with NGOs and private contractors) in the Mine Action sector, contributing - with an active role - to the clearance of contaminated areas in Iraq and to a safe return home of IDPs.

**Ministry of Interior in the Kurdistan Region** has increased the percentage of women in military and civilian staff. The Directorate-General to Combat Violence Against Women, for example, is comprised of more than 35% female military employees. The Ministry has been keen to review policies of service provision and female engagement. Greater numbers of women were involved in the reconciliation committees following up on pre-court domestic violence. Women have also been involved in the Centre of Genocide Investigation in Duhok governorate. The Ministry has worked to investigate crimes against humanity, especially against Yazidi female victims of ISIL, and to provide social and technical services for these victims.

**High Council of Women in KRG** implemented several projects in partnership with relevant Ministries and civil society organizations. The project of social and economic empowerment of rural women and girls was supported by UN agencies.

In regard to the judiciary, the **Supreme Judicial Council (SJC)** has worked on women's participation in policy-making and

decision-making, including in the positions of judges and prosecutors. Women's involvement in such positions had been traditionally limited. Rarely had women held the post of judge in misdemeanor and investigation courts, such as posts of judge in first instance courts or in personal status cases. There are only several female prosecutors in the Presidency of the Public Prosecution and criminal courts and some female deputy prosecutors before investigation courts, along with women in the important committees such as the Committee to Study and Amend Laws in Force. The SJC has a policy of accepting qualified female legal professionals in the Judicial Institute for the purpose of training them and subsequently granting them the post of judge. The SJC has also prepared a number of human rights female specialists through training courses for investigators at the Judicial Institute and the Judicial Development Institute. The number of female judges in Iraq had been, until 2003, only 18, and in 2017 their number has reached 113. The SJC has provided training courses for investigators at the Judicial Institute and the Judicial Development Institute, increasing the number of women investigators up to 123 by 2017

In the Kurdistan Region, Law No. 7 of 2009 on the creation of the Judicial Institute was issued. The first cycle students were admitted in 2012 and graduated in 2014. Out of these, 41 graduated as judges and public prosecution, 28 men and 13 women. The second cycle graduates of 2015 included 35 judges and public prosecution members, 23 men and 12 women. The number of judges and public prosecution members in Kurdistan increased to 444 judges and members of public prosecution, including 87 female judges and prosecutors. This is evidence of the increased female representation in this field, with 25 more female judges and public prosecutors since the implementation of the National Plan in 2014.

**Ministry of Education** held workshops and training courses in Baghdad for the staff of the Ministry and its general directorates, including the supervisors, pedagogues and pedagogical counsellors, on Resolution 1325. It has also trained 1,411 employees of both sexes and different staffing levels and competencies. The number of participants was 100 male and female employees from the Ministry's office. The Ministry has also opened literacy centers in IDPs' camps that have served a large number of displaced women, in addition to opening three representative bodies in the Kurdistan Region with decent buildings rented for that purpose, along with the opening of its Literacy Centre for Yazidi Displaced Women in Sulaymaniyah and staffing it with competent teaching personnel. The Ministry of Education has additionally provided many facilities for male and female displaced students through the admission of new students in the liberated areas in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, admitting them to various

universities, especially the students from Ninewa. Literacy examinations were conducted for IDPs in Duhok with all necessary basic supplies. The Central Education Fund provided health and social support to the Ministry's affiliates in governorates recaptured from the terrorist ISIS occupation. In addition, the Ministry has ensured continuous follow-up by visiting IDPs' camps in Baghdad and the Kurdistan Region in cooperation with the Committee of Displaced Persons in the Ministry's office, assessing the major problems suffered by IDPs and taking several measures to find solution

**Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs** has also lobbied stakeholders to support small-scale income-generating businesses by providing grants and soft loans, thereby improving the economic status of returnee women and their families and contributing more broadly to rebuilding the economy in liberated areas. The Ministry has implemented five training workshops with this decision and on the gender concept.

In order to achieve the goal of female engagement, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** has provided a database on the numbers of female employees within its ranks and their staffing levels, committing to increase the number of women in decision-making positions within its departments and diplomatic missions and to motivate other female employees to meet the requirements of promotion and improve their job performance to assume posts of ambassadors. On the other hand, the Ministry has ensured the participation of its female staff in meetings and negotiations hosted by international and regional organizations, and in ministerial and sectoral committees formed in coordination with other relevant institutions and bodies. **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** has won the membership election of the ECOSOC Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

The goal of women's representation in societies experiencing armed conflicts has been limited to building the capacity of women in some relevant Ministries, civil society organizations and female leaders in local communities. **National Security Apparatus Follow up Committee** on NAP 1325 conducted training workshops for women in to prepare them as trainers and future volunteers in peace negotiations, in addition to awareness-raising and educational sessions on UNSCR 1325.

For its part, **Ministry of Finance** has set up banking facilities for businesswomen to encourage women to open and operate women's businesses in order to empower women and revitalize the national economy. This has resulted in quintupling the number of female beneficiaries of loans granted in 2017 compared to 2016. The Ministry has increased the representation of women in leadership positions to allow for their contribution to policy-making and decision-making.

In the last four years, the representation of women in leadership positions has increased from 18% to 33%.

With the participation of 20 legal experts and prosecution members, **Ministry of Justice in the Kurdistan Region** conducted a training workshop on the justice system, and discussed a way of treating battered women and protecting them within the framework of the legislation and laws guaranteeing their rights, including Resolution 1325.

Furthermore, the **Department of Foreign Relations in the Kurdistan Region** has organized exchange programs for fellowships and workshops for training on leadership, decision-making, justice and equality in cooperation with foreign consulates in the Kurdistan Region and its representative bodies abroad, as well as other international and civil society organizations. The Department organized with the US Institute of Peace and in collaboration with the Women Empowerment Organization training courses for the sectoral working groups in the Region on UNSCR 1325 and subsequent resolutions for the purpose of building upon the experiences of other countries in enhancing women's roles in peacebuilding. Thirty men and women from the Ministries members of CSTF attended the 3-day courses.

Seminars and workshops on sexual violence in the liberated areas from ISIL were also held. The role of the KRG in this field has been explored, and the Department of Foreign Relations was keen on engaging women in all official meetings and visits, accompanying the Head of the Department both at home and abroad. On 30 March 2017, the Department organized in cooperation with the Coordinating Committee of the CSTF a special seminar with the international community to present the stages of implementation of the NAP and the findings of the institutional mid-evaluation that illustrates the available resources, institutional capacity for implementation and support required.

Iraq held its parliamentary elections in 2018. The total number of candidates for the election was 7018 from 88 parties and one coalition that competed for 329 seats in the House of Representatives. The number of female candidates was 1983; 8 of them headed electoral lists and alliances in Baghdad, Southern and Northern Iraq. The final result is that today 83 women are members of parliament.

According to the Iraqi Constitution, women must occupy not less than 25 % of the total seats in parliament. The elections in 2018 demonstrated the injustice inflicted against female candidates: counting the 22 seats won by women in competition with men as part of 25% quota led to the qualification of 83 women MPs. Had the constitutional text been applied, the number of women MPs would have been 105 rather than 83.

## OUTCOMES OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PILLAR1: PARTICIPATION

- An analytical database that contributes to a clearer picture of women's participation.
- Promotion of women's participation in judicial work, which contributes to the provision of more gender-sensitive jurisprudence.
- Increased awareness among employees of Ministries and in the society at large on the importance of female political participation.
- Increased women's representation in embassies and foreign missions.
- Increased women's participation in decision-making in the Ministries, which has contributed to making gender-responsive decisions.
- Promotion of women's participation in the management of IDPs' camps.
- Women participating in the activities related to the UNSC 1325, have better awareness and are empowered to participate in negotiating and peace-building.
- Contribution to reducing the phenomenon of extrajudicial marriage.



High-level conference on the implementation of the National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325, October 2016, Baghdad

## PILLAR II: PROTECTION

This pillar expresses the governmental intent to guarantee the minimum protection and security for women to live a free and dignified life. The overall objective of this pillar is to improve living conditions of women and to ensure their access to rights and services, to be achieved through two strategic goals and nine specific objectives.

### STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Providing protection for women from gender-based violence and safe shelters for victims and survivors.
2. Ensuring rehabilitation and reintegration in society of female victims of violence during the transitional phases of the armed conflict and beyond.

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Protecting IDP women and reducing violence against them, while ensuring there's no impunity for perpetrators by integrating women's rights in the legal and security systems.
- Ensuring the return of women who were kidnapped or missing during the armed conflict.
- Ensuring fair treatment of IDPs through urgently investigating complaints, guaranteeing no impunity for perpetrators.
- Ensuring the implementation of laws to protect women who have been subjected to kidnapping or sexual assault.
- Empowering IDP women economically and socially to fully utilize all human resources in camps.
- Ensuring safe return and decent life of IDP women.
- Harmonizing national legislation with international standards on WR including UNSCR 1325 to ensure prosecution of perpetrators of crimes against women and to bring women justice.
- Providing equal opportunities for women and men to access economic resources.
- Mobilizing resources, monitoring and evaluation.

As a result of the violent conflict and military operations waged against ISIL and the rise of a culture that condones violation of many fundamental social life values, women in particular have been greatly exposed to violence and abuse, suffering from discrimination and marginalization. The NAP has addressed these issues and highlighted the reality of VAW in the armed conflict in Iraq, consolidating the knowledge on how to arrive

at a radical solution that provides protection and security for survivors of such violations. We noted that women subjected to sexual violence during the armed conflicts were of all ages and for a variety of reasons, including the lack of awareness, restrictions and censorship imposed on the movement and freedom of women by parents, tribes or spouses, reporting of such cases by victims who experienced abuse and violation has been lacking, either for fear of family or of murder. This issue has attracted particular attention on how to combat sexual violence against women and to make a greater effort to monitor cases and meet women's needs.

Women's freedom of movement is restricted due to their status within their communities – both before and after the armed conflict – and their marginal position within the structure of tribal authority. Given their exclusion from decision-making at all levels, women became the victim. It is generally difficult for women to have a clear role during the conflict and during the reconstruction and peacebuilding efforts, and even in post-conflict decision-making. The NAP underlines the link between participation and protection and stressed that participation and representation of women in decision-making can be only done by empowering them economically and socially and by protecting them through national laws and strategic mechanisms.

**Ministry of Defense** has secured the protection of displaced families by the Iraqi army forces within their respective jurisprudence. The approximate numbers of displaced women and their families offered protection were as follows: Al-Anbar 22,879, Diyala 36,495, Saladin 120,480, and Nineveh 577,785. Protection was also offered to families displaced from Al-Anbar, Nineveh, Diyala and Kirkuk to Najaf, Karbala, and Diwaniyah. Awareness-raising and educational campaigns were organized for all members of the Army and military units on how to use UNSCR 1325 NAP to know how to treat displaced women and children. The Ministry of Defense has also collaborated with competent authorities to secure and purge the liberated areas of the remnants of war and the traces of military operations. This included processing 195,836 improvised explosive devices (IEDs), 2,457 car bombs, 24,378 booby-trapped residential houses, 2,828 explosive belts, in addition to lifting 19,575,394 various types of military hardware and 1,228 rocket-launching bases. It is worth noting that many women civilians are working in the Mine Action sector, mainly with NGOs and private contractors funded by the UN. They play an active role and contribute to the clearance of contaminated areas in Iraq and to a safe return home of IDPs. A survey among Mine Action stakeholders pointed out that of 1,112 persons, 979 are men and 133 are women (12%), mainly involved in Community Liaison, Non-Technical Surveys, or Risk Education roles.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> The staff of 7 organizations in total provided the data for the survey

**Ministry of Interior** has made important efforts to protect displaced women and men. Special detachments were formed through the Directorate of Family and Child Protection (DFCP) to visit IDPs' camps in Nineveh, Saladin, Najaf, Diyala and Kirkuk, providing services to women from 2014 to 2017. These detachments then visited IDPs' camps to reduce violence against women and children and to ensure non-impunity for perpetrators, as well as to introduce the DFCP's hotline for reporting violence and disseminate it among IDPs. They have also provided food and in-kind assistance, such as chillers, heaters, bed sheets, pillows and blankets, in addition to financial grants awarded by international organizations. Furthermore, the DFCP has provided psychological support to families living in the camps, contributing to solving many familial problems.

The Ministry has trained the female officers at the DFCP and the Community Police Directorate (CPD) on methods of investigation and collecting evidence. Both directorates have coordinated for the purpose of forming roving detachments in and outside IDPs' camps. The Ministry has also coordinated with other Ministries to follow up the legal and administrative procedures for the above-mentioned complaints. It has formed special teams and roving detachments affiliated with the Directorate of Civil Status and Passports that conducted field visits to IDPs' camps to issue documents such as civil identity cards, Iraqi citizenship certificates and passports.

With regard to the file of kidnapped and missing women, the Ministry of Interior has a prominent and

active role. It has pressed the competent authorities to take full action to recover the kidnapped and missing women and reveal their fate. Coordination with governmental and non-governmental organizations to monitor human trafficking cases in the camps and to raise awareness on this issue was carried out in a number of camps (Mary Virgin Camp / Kasanzani Peace) with the participation of Masir ("Fate") organization. Follow-up with sub-committees to combat trafficking in human beings in the liberated governorates and follow-up on the situation of IDPs and their numbers was also carried out. It was found that the registered number of female victims of trafficking crimes for the purpose of sexual exploitation was 22, according to the Trafficking Law No. 28 of 2012.

On the other hand, the Community Police Directorate carried out special activities on community violence, such as workshops and seminars. The Community Police forum was held under the title "Combating Domestic Violence", with the participation of the Baghdad Women Association, tribal sheikhs and clerics. A special brochure was distributed as a demonstration on cases of domestic violence. The Ministry

also organized awareness campaigns, distributed posters to raise awareness about the dangers of early marriage and child labor, and organized awareness campaigns and educational lectures in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The Division of Electronic Monitoring within the Directorate has followed up the violations to which children were subjected on social media websites, pressing the competent authorities to enforce relevant laws such as the Family and Child Protection Law.

**Ministry of Interior in KRG** has increased the number of offices combating VAW to 28 in the districts and sub-districts in Kurdistan. During 2017, 14 mobile teams and family counselling centers in IDP camps addressed 4,851 cases. 7,885 complaints submitted to the directorates and offices combating VAW were considered, along with 114 cases of sexual violence. The Ministry transferred 62 women to shelters by the end of October 2017, with 431 women having left and 266 remaining in shelters.

On July 20, 2016, HE Mr. Karim Sinjari, Minister of Interior, HE Mr. Mohammad Qader Hawdhiani, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Mrs. Bakhshan Zangana, Secretary General of the High Council of Women KRG and Mrs. Heba Kassar, Director of the UN Women, Iraq have launched the Women's Peace and Security Program in the framework of the implementation of the NAP that had been signed in response to the urgent protection needs of women and girls who have been subjected to serious effects caused by displacement and sexual and gender-based violence.

**High Council of Women KRG** held yearly campaigns during "16 days of Activism" (2011 to 2017) for combating violence against women, raising awareness of gender based violence, increasing availability of services and contributing to a more friendly environment for female IDPs and refugees. A new campaign is under preparation for 2018. HCW also implemented a project aimed at combatting female genital mutilation and supervised the implementation of the three-year behavioral change plan under the name of the "Kumbi Plan". The objective of the plan is reducing child marriage in the Kurdistan Region. It was implemented in cooperation with the United Nations Fund Population Fund and the participation of concerned Ministries and civil society organizations.

**National Security Apparatus** sent its forces to secure the protection of displaced families within their respective jurisprudence. Work is ongoing to form a committee comprising the National Security Chancellery, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, under the chairing of the National Security Apparatus, in order to follow up the file of female prisoners in light of the legal procedures regarding the release of the

female prisoners included in the public amnesty law who have been previously convicted in “prostitution” cases. The aim is to address the possibility of them being exploited to work in terrorist or prostitution networks once they are released for fear of being killed. The Apparatus referred the complaints to the competent authorities and followed up the measures it had taken to protect women who were subjected to sexual violence. In cooperation with all the security authorities, the Apparatus has secured and cleared liberated areas from the remnants of military operations

**Ministry of Migration and Displaced** has registered a large proportion of complaints of domestic violence with investigation courts and judicial investigation offices. It has also coordinated with international organizations for the purpose of providing support for the Yazidi displaced women and distribution of in-kind assistance of financial grants to operate small businesses. The Ministry implemented psychological support programs for women through seminars, raising awareness and educational sessions. Buses were provided to transport returnees, especially women and children, to their areas of origin, as well as shelters for female and male IDPs. The Ministry has provided humanitarian support for setting up tents and caravans and for supplying needs. In addition, the Ministry has provided accommodation and distributed equipment and tools for small income-generating businesses of women and men.

**Ministry of Planning** has established a database of beneficiaries from specialized centers in the camps that receive female victims and survivors. The Ministry planned to carry out a survey of IDPs to extract indicators on the conditions of women, especially to assess their needs and potentials, but due to financial constraints the survey was not made. The Ministry has also offered displaced women training and rehabilitation to implement small income-generating businesses, as well as a special program of vocational training and psychological support to help them reintegrate into their communities. This activity included coordination with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. Ministry of Planning included the activity within the Executive Action Plan for human reconstruction in the liberated areas within the framework of the National Development Plan for Reconstruction - The axis of Human and Social Development.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs** has instructed all Iraqi missions abroad to search for the Yazidi women and determine their fate. A number of Yazidi women have received psychosocial support helping their recovery. Work is ongoing for the rehabilitation of liberated areas for the return of IDPs and their families, especially women. There has been negotiation and coordination with members of the UN Security Council to issue a UNSC Resolution 2379 to criminalize the terrorist

organization of ISIL. On the other hand, a joint statement was signed between the Minister of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Iraqi Government and the Special Representative of the Secretary- General on conflict-related sexual violence. Three focal points were designated in the federal government, the Kurdistan Region and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence and a national action plan was drafted.

**National Reconciliation Committee** has considered cases brought by women to obtain arbitrary-divorce maintenance from their husbands and a decision to force the husband to pay the wife’s support. The number of cases identified was 10,643 in 2014, 10,771 in 2015, and 11,090 cases in 2016. 43 women from the camps were trained in leadership skills to be able to participate in the management of their camps and to follow up with women leaders in the camps. They were also given 75 small loans to set up income-generating projects. The Committee has followed up on safe and clean delivery services by providing more than 10 mobile maternity clinics, as well as emphasizing the urgent rehabilitation of maternity wards. A thousand women (Yazidis and Turkmen) and 17 child survivors of ISIL violence were also received and had their legal proceedings completed.

**Supreme Judicial Council** has received complaints, investigated them and collected evidence in all areas that have been occupied by ISIL. The number of complaints submitted to the competent investigation courts was 2,334 in 2014, 6,472 in 2015, and 4,753 in 2016. Due and fair trials against perpetrators of terrorist crimes were conducted. The percentage of cases settled was 85% in 2014, 97% in 2015, and 96% in 2016. A judicial investigative body was formed to look into the crimes committed against the Yezidi component. The SJC has examined cases brought by women to establish their parenthood, to prove and ratify their extrajudicial marriage or divorce contracts, or to obtain their financial dues, matrimonial furniture or deferred portion of the dowry from the divorced husband. The Council has also held training workshops to empower concerned staff on topics including Retrieval Files, with the number of participants reaching 36. A training course was also held for 10 members of the Public Prosecution on observing and conducting judicial proceedings. The requests of displaced and uprooted women and relatives of victims of terrorist crimes to issue legally verified deeds of inheritance shares, testaments, death certificates and deeds of guardianship have been met.

The Council has issued a circular concerning domestic violence cases. A large percentage of complaints of domestic violence have been registered with investigation courts and judicial investigation offices, and legal proceedings have been instituted against the defendant.

The number of complaints filed by battered women was 341 in 2015 and 277 in 2016. There are no statistics yet for 2017. Cases filed by women to obtain support from their husbands after divorce have been considered.

The number of complaints filed by battered women was 341 in 2015, 277 in 2016. There were no statistics yet for 2017. Cases filed by women to obtain support from husband after divorce have been considered.

In 2016, a committee was formed comprising a number of experienced and competent judges for the purpose of examining the laws in force and present proposals on them in line with the current situation in Iraq. One of the priorities of this committee was to present a proposal to amend the Anti-Terrorism Law No. 13 of 2005 to ensure that all perpetrators of terrorist crimes, including kidnapping and sexual violence against women, girls and children, are held accountable.

**Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs** included 1,522 Yazidi women survivors in the scheme of social care salaries, along with 88 Shabaki women survivors of ISIL violence and 169 women from the Al-Alam subdistrict. A number of displaced families were sheltered in Ministry's shelter houses (the Department of Welfare of Persons With Special Needs in Al-Wazireya neighborhood). 148 individuals and 79 women and their families displaced from the governorates of Nineveh and Al-Anbar were provided with necessary services. Sewing machines were also distributed, along with gas tannours (Middle Eastern bread ovens), chairs for the disabled, medicines and household items. A project was initiated to document the violations against female victims of terrorism and war, and to provide subsidies to female beneficiaries every 2 months instead of 3, with focus on supporting poor families. A supportive income has been secured to the families through skills education and provision of equipment needed to carry out the training in coordination with local and international organizations and donors. A pilot program for conditional assistance for women was also implemented with the participation of 2,000 women. The Ministry has established centers providing psychological support in seven governorates (Baghdad, Karbala, Najaf, Babil, Saladin, Diyala, Al-Anbar).

Support for the shelters in Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Duhok continue, in addition to building the capacity for their staff and providing services to female survivors of violence and gender-based violence.

Ministry of Health has provided all IDPs in Iraq free access to primary health care centers and hospitals. Eight training courses were conducted on the provision of reproductive health services including a pregnant care guide and monitoring

of maternal mortality, with 20-30 participants per training course and a total of 240 male and female providers of health services. Sixteen training courses on mental health and psychosocial support for female survivors of violence were conducted, along with seven training workshops on the clinical measures program for women survivors of sexual violence. More than 20 IDPs' camps have been supplemented with health parcels, medical detachments and mobile medical teams, which exceeded 500 detachments sent to all the liberated areas. The Protocol on Clinical Management of Survivors of Sexual Abuse was developed and signed by the Minister in April 2017.

**Ministry of Health** in Kurdistan Region has also provided free integrated health care services to all IDPs. Twenty training courses were conducted on the provision of mental health services and psychosocial support, open to all IDPs, especially women and child survivors of violence. Fifteen training workshops were conducted on the clinical measures program for women survivors of sexual violence, as well as five training-of-trainers courses on psychological gap-bridging. The following guides have been produced: First Aid Manual, Mental Health Book, Psychological Gap-Bridging, Health and Medical Services Providers Manual for Domestic Violence, Pregnant Care Guide, and Breastfeeding Guide. In addition, 50 publications and guidebooks on health topics were produced to raise mothers' awareness of different health issues related to childcare.

The Ministry has also worked to raise awareness. The educational project on female genital mutilation was implemented in 10 health centers, and a campaign on early marriage was organized. In addition, courses were carried out in health centers for both workers in health education and midwives, especially in remote areas, with the aim to educate families and produce awareness materials and a TV campaign. A special center was opened to receive cases of violence in Duhok, along with 30 reproductive health clinics. A newborn child care program was implemented in the camps. Additionally, the Protocol on Clinical Measures for Survivors of Sexual Abuse was prepared and signed by the Minister, as well as a strategy for the provision of preventive and curative health services for the IDPs. The Protocol on Clinical Management of Survivors of Sexual Abuse was developed and signed by the Minister in April 2017.

Finally, a program to develop the capacities of medicine personnel was initiated to collect forensic medicine evidence for cases of violence and extermination, with five courses conducted.

**Ministry of Finance** has given priority to the "teacher" vacant posts, resulting from the efforts by the Ministry of Education

in 2016 for female heads of families who have a diploma or primary university certificate according to the instructions of implementation of the federal budget (Section 3, 1-Appointment / First / D / 4).

**Ministry of Martyrs and Anfal KRG** has worked to collect, document and expose facts locally and internationally to uncover the magnitude and abhorrence of the committed crimes. It produced documentary films, conducted research, and collected statistics to document and preserve criminal evidence. The Ministry has also searched and investigated the fate of the missing persons, detected mass graves and worked to return the remains of victims to their hometowns in coordination with the federal government and other relevant actors. This provides the means and facilities to detect and open mass graves and identify victims.

The Ministry has sought to obtain international recognition of the crimes committed, and to prosecute the perpetrators to competent courts by taking advantage of the international conventions and protocols and the experiences and expertise of international and local organizations. It has also worked to win the support of the international community to recognize the crimes of genocide. This support may include local and international governmental and non-governmental assistance to define genocide, uncover the real significance of the crimes of ISIL and seek support and legal advice from competent, experienced and well-connected authorities. The Ministry has also worked on developing and amending laws in accordance with international laws and regulations. Finally, a monthly grant has been provided to the families of martyrs and other victims of the Anfal genocide.

**Department of Foreign Relations in KRG** has worked to empower abused women and female survivors of violence in the economic field by providing them with job opportunities and soft loans to support small-scale businesses in cooperation and coordination with international organizations and civil society organizations. The Department has also provided health, psychological and social services in cooperation and coordination with international organizations and civil society organizations.

#### OUTCOMES OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PILLAR 2: PROTECTION

- Reduced violence against women and children, and provision of legal and Psycho-social protection leading to increased security and stability index, ensuring policewomen receive female victims.

- Security and safety have been provided to over one million women and children displaced from Nineveh, Saladin, Kirkuk, Diyala and Al-Anbar governorates due to ISIS attacks and the subsequent liberation operations.
- Over 50,000 food baskets have been delivered in the humanitarian response.
- A considerable number of female survivors of violence have been better integrated into society, while preserving their rights and dignity, and contributing to their psychological rehabilitation, improved social and economic stability.
- Better protection of displaced families has been provided by receiving and referring complaints to the competent authorities.
- Receiving and recovering back home more than a thousand Yazidi and Turkmen female survivors and a number of child survivors of ISIL.
- Over 13,500 complaints from female survivors of violence received; investigations and initiated legal proceedings against the defendants conducted.
- Legal protection of women improved through provision of legal services in different governorates and filing over 300,000 cases on issues as validation of extrajudicial divorce, proof of paternity, and claims by divorced wives.
- Improved living conditions of 1,779 survivors belonging to the Yazidi, Shabaki, and Arab communities in ISIL-freed Al-Alam sub-district due to receiving grants.
- Improved living conditions in camps due to distribution of financial grants and in-kind assistance to hundreds of thousands of displaced women from areas formerly occupied of ISIL.
- Better health care situation for women IDPs thanks to provision of free access to adequate health care services according to their needs.
- Governmental psychological support centers established in seven governorates (Baghdad, Karbala, Najaf, Babel, Saladin, Diyala and Al-Anbar) where female victims receive psychological support.
- Improved services provided to women due to the sensitization, education and training of service providers in IDPs' camps.
- Increased presence of women working in Mine Action sector.

### PILLAR III: PREVENTION

This pillar has an overall objective of integrating UNSCR 1325 on the national level and in all national strategies and development plans. The overall objective will be achieved through two strategic goals and five specific objectives.

#### STRATEGIC GOALS

- Mainstreaming and integrating gender in all policies and processes related to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace-building in Iraq.
- Raising awareness, empowering women and enhancing their capacities through rights based approach.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Mainstreaming gender and raising awareness of service providers.
- Integration of human rights, values of equality, justice and principles of gender in all policies, programs and projects of security authorities.
- Mainstreaming gender in policies and processes related to resolution and prevention of conflicts and peace building in Iraq.
- Empowering women and improving their capacities and awareness of their rights.
- Adopting legislation that respects human rights according to international standards and in line with international women's rights conventions.

**Ministry of Defense** has worked on several levels to achieve the objectives. It has mainstreamed gender and sustainable development into its plan. A comprehensive awareness and education program has been implemented as well, involving various categories of employees. The Ministry has provided gender trainings to 182 female employees. Furthermore, 189 women and men were trained on gender and UNSCR 1325. An education and awareness-raising program was developed for military divisions, contingents and units, who were introduced to gender, human rights and ways to deal with women survivors of sexual violence during an armed conflict. The military personnel responsible for the protection of IDPs and law enforcement were trained on how to deal with all displaced women and men.

**Supreme Judicial Council (SJC)** has trained judges on domestic violence and violence against women. All investigation courts

and other courts are obliged to implement Resolution No. 101 from 22 June 1999, which guarantees the right not to be arrested for unpremeditated crimes, with the Public Prosecution observing the application of this resolution. A Division has been established with a direct contact with the Office of Chief Prosecutor, entrusted with receiving complaints on human rights violations from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and presenting them to the Chief Prosecutor. In 2017 they received 246 complaints in Baghdad. The Council has also conducted periodic visits to the female juvenile correction department.

**Ministry of Planning** has provided gender training to 58 high-ranking ministerial employees. Employees have participated in trainings provided by other institutions on how to deal with displaced and conflict-affected women. The Ministry has incorporated gender principles into some of their policies and programs to ensure equality and justice in implementation. **Central Statistical Organization** has also conducted 10 training courses on gender in State institutions.

**National Security Apparatus** has printed posters, leaflets and pictures to raise awareness, and has conducted a number of workshops on the need of protecting women. The female staff of the security Ministries and those working in the National Security Apparatus has been trained on how to carry out activities in their workplaces according to Resolution 1325 and the National Plan. Women specifically working on the files of displaced women have been trained. Other workshops were organized in cooperation with the Iraqi Women Network to higher-ranking staff. Best practices and experiences were shared during the trainings. In cooperation with the Ministry of Interior/Community Police, the Apparatus conducted field visits to girls' schools to raise awareness of the dangers associated with using social media linked to the possibility of recording blackmailing incidents.

**Ministry of Interior** also organized introductory workshops, conferences and lectures on UNSCR 1325 in Baghdad and other governorates and prepared gender-related awareness-raising courses, capacity- building workshops, short films, and publications. A total of 18,962 female and male directors, officers, and employees of varying staffing levels were trained. The Directorate of Training and Rehabilitation has issued a special booklet to introduce the UNSCR 1325. It has been distributed to all directorates and departments of the Ministry and in all workshops and conferences. The Ministry has also focused on best practices, granting women leadership positions as directors-general and engaging them in the Ministry's Opinion Committee. It has also pressed the competent authorities to expedite the issuance of laws in accordance with human rights principles in order to address and eliminate discrimination and ill treatment of women and girls.

**Ministry of Interior in the Kurdistan Region** has similarly worked on empowerment and dissemination of culture, as it implemented 22 courses in 2017 on gender, women's rights and UNSCR 1325, which were attended by 486 employees in the directorates on combating violence against women. It also held more than 381 seminars in schools and universities by 14 mobile teams, raising the total number of beneficiaries to 5,891. The Ministry also provided 50 awareness programs on violence against women in satellite and radio channels, and held a special conference to discuss the law on domestic violence in KR-I, hosting 300 academics and experts in women's rights. The Ministry has published 35,000 brochures, leaflets and booklets on women's rights, and on services provided by the directorates combating VAW. During 2015 the Ministry carried out a specific field study on the self-immolation incidents by women, contributing to the efforts that have been made in the Parliament in the Kurdistan Region, and the civil society organizations, to amend the legal texts that are not compatible with gender equality and women's rights.

**High Council of Women KRG** played a major role in mainstreaming gender equality in policies related to conflict resolution and peace building as well as on the level of legislation. They organized a national conference to discuss obstacles of the implementation of laws on women's rights, on solutions and recommendations in coordination with national stakeholders, UN agencies and international organizations. Furthermore, they provided a number of courses on development, gender and equality, for the Council's general managers, coordinators and directors of districts. On the level of legislation, the HCW conducted five courses for law enforcement officers, judicial investigators and investigation officers in the police stations of the Ministry of Interior. The courses discussed laws from women's rights perspective. The two laws on combatting domestic violence as well as the amendments made in the personal status law in the region were also discussed. As a part of their mandate, the HCW was regularly involved in providing answers and participating in international reports on women's issues.

The HCW contributed to the establishment of the Kurdistan Center for Gender Studies in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Soran University) and UN Women.

Ministry of Health **conducted training courses for their staff** at the Ministry's headquarters and other provincial health departments. It held 20 seminars and 24 training courses on gender-based violence for 1320 medical and health staff in the provincial health departments. The Ministry has incorporated women's rights and gender in their special health programs, implementing 89 courses for 2670 employees. The Ministry has also worked to raise community awareness and distribute

brochures on public health. At least half a million brochures have been circulated since the expulsion of ISIL. The Ministry also held a workshop in Erbil on the importance of introducing the gender into the plans and programs of Ministries with an expert from the World Health Organization. 30 representatives of Federal and Regional Ministries took part. The Ministry also held 6 workshops on gender, human rights and violence for volunteers in the camps and 20,000 leaflets about UNSCR 1325 were disseminated to around 30,000 people.

**Ministry of Finance** has also printed publications promoting social justice and gender equality. It has mainstreamed gender in its policies and development and administrative programs to ensure empowerment and more equality. It has provided capacity-building on traditional gender stereotypes. Moreover, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have focused on the issue of corruption, whereby each of them organized workshops to introduce women's rights under the slogan "Women United Against Corruption." The Ministry of Finance organized several trainings on UNSCR 1325 and gender. It has held an annual honoring program for best performing woman to encourage its female affiliates and support them to enhance their performance and creativity.

**Ministry of Migration and Displaced** has implemented various activities to mainstream gender. It focused on education, carrying out training courses on how to deal with displaced and conflict-affected women. It has also held seminars and workshops on gender and gender-based violence, including seminars and workshops during the 16-day campaign against VAW. The Ministry also organized educational seminars on UNSCR 1325 and gender for its high-ranking staff, and carried out 22 trainings, building the capacity of more than 1,000 employees. It also produced printed material on combatting VAW, prepared statistics on returnee and displaced female-headed households, and conducted field visits to the camps to identify the most important needs of displaced women.

**Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs** conducted trainings on UNSCR 1325 and on gender in the frame of the project "Promoting the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 by the Government Agencies in Iraq".

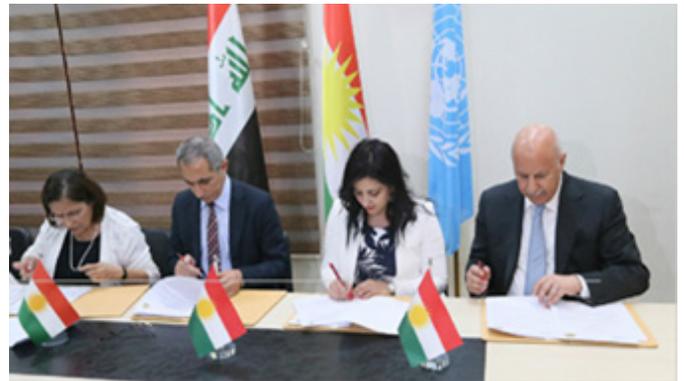
**Ministry of Martyrs and Anfal** has set up the High Commission for Genocide to publicize the crimes committed against Yazidi Kurdish women and women from other ethnic and religious minorities. The Ministry has worked on policies that promote and empower women, and has developed a risk-management plan. It has also worked on organizing training courses for its staff and raising public awareness to respect the victims of ISIL, especially those who were subjected to sexual violence.

### OUTCOMES OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PILLAR 3: PREVENTION

- Improved knowledge and awareness of gender and women's rights international standards and mechanisms among the diverse staff of the Ministries of CSTF in Federal Government and KRG.
- Increased awareness of women's rights and gender equality among service providers, contributing to delivering a more gender sensitive response.
- Improved knowledge and skills among employees of relevant Ministries and security authorities to deal with female survivors of sexual violence during and after the armed conflict.
- Significant progress in the understanding of gender among the staff of the Ministries of the CSTF, from senior to administrative level.
- The values of UNSCR 1325 and gender equality have been mainstreamed in governmental programs as well as in policies of the majority of Ministries from the CSTF in Federal Government and KRG.
- Positive change with regards to gender stereotypes of male and female roles in society among both leaders and employees of the Ministries in the CSTF in Federal Government and KRG.
- Improved public awareness of women's rights and the impact of SGBV on women.
- Better public acceptance of victims of SGBV by ISIL.



Legal Course for Investigators, Police Officers,  
18th & 25th March 2017, Duhok, Sulaymaniyah



Signing of Women, Peace and Security program in the framework of implementation of NAP 132. From right: Mr. Sinjari, Ministry of Interior, Ms. Qasas, UN Women Country, Mr. Houdiani, Minister of Labor and social affairs and Ms. Bakhshan Zangana, Secretary General of the High Council of Women



Suzan Aref, Coordinator of CSTF, briefing the United Nations Security Council on the implementation of the Iraq National Action Plan for UNSCR 1325 on 8th August 2018, UNSC, New York

## CHAPTER 5

# ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

The CSOs have played a major role in supporting the implementation of the NAP 1325. They were involved structurally in the development, implementation and monitoring of the NAP through their participation in CSTF. Their efforts have also resulted in the establishment of several coalitions, networks, and working groups who have all cooperated with high professionalism with the relevant Ministries in the Federal Government, the KRG as well as with the provincial councils, academics and experts in planning and training.

The NAP provided an opportunity for the CSOs in Federal Iraq and KR-I to work within the framework of cooperation with governmental institutions to discuss, advocate and work on women's issues in an effective, participatory manner. It also formed an appropriate regulatory framework for initiating sub-plans and programs relevant to the needs of women in general, and displaced women and survivors of violence in particular. The contribution of the civil society can be summarized as follows:

### 5.1. ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAP

After the adoption of the NAP the CSOs continued to advocate for its implementation, especially in a context of increasing terrorist attacks by ISIL. In this regard, the I-NAP 1325 Initiative held several meetings with decision makers from the Federal Government and the KRG and carried out several supporting activities and events to demand the implementation of the NAP. In order to enhance cooperation between organizations and achieve the common objectives, an Alliance 1325 for supporting the implementation of the NAP was established to continue advocacy efforts towards implementation of the NAP and the subsequent related plans. The Iraqi Network 1325 formed by several Iraqi organizations from different governorates started mobilizing local communities, holding seminars and campaigns on the importance of the NAP.

Throughout the period of implementation, the CSOs launched several campaigns advocating for women's rights, supported the promulgation of the law on women's protection against domestic violence and mobilized against proposed amendments of the Personal Status Law which aimed to legalize marriage for nine-year olds. They held awareness seminars, meetings with legislators and decision makers and participated in demonstrations, protest vigils, and media campaigns releasing data and messages to the Iraqi government on how to best respond to the needs of women. Awareness campaigns on the implementation of the NAP on the community level were also conducted, including both men and women. Awareness campaigns involved conferences, workshops, dissemination of publications, use of various

media, and social networking pages and targeted artistic activities such as mobile theatre, exhibitions painting, photographs and handicrafts, as well as sporting events for young people.

### 5.2. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAP

CSOs have implemented many programs and projects with the support of international organizations and the UN agencies operating in Iraq. These programs focused on:

- Advocacy campaigns, community mobilization and lobbying for better participation of women at all political, administrative and social levels.
- Capacity-building for female leaders to prepare them to play a larger and more influential role, whether within governmental or non-governmental institutions or at the community level.
- Programs and projects that provided support and direct assistance to displaced women, widows, divorcees, female heads of households and women with disabilities. They included distribution of food and non-food assistance, grants for small income-generating projects, vocational training, life skills development, literacy programs, education programs, health support programs, psychosocial counselling centers, legal clinics and other services.
- Research and studies on women's rights and needs, and disseminating them broadly inside and outside Iraq as an effective tool for advocacy and awareness raising.

### 5.3. FOLLOW-UP AND EVALUATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAP

To ensure follow up on the progress of the indicators towards achieving the objectives of the NAP, CSOs implemented several independent follow-up and evaluation programs. They were involved in assisting the Ministerial Follow-Up Teams to develop their Ministerial Plans through the provision of technical advice and logistical support. In 2016-2017 Women Empowerment Organization (WEO) provided trainings of the Ministerial Follow-Up Teams on monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, each Ministry was visited to identify the capabilities of its Follow-Up Team and to identify its strengths, weaknesses, training needs, the most prominent achievements, and the challenges facing them. Based on the findings, recommendations were submitted to the concerned authorities in order to support these Teams and meet their

needs. WEO provided trainings on communication, follow-up and reporting skills, while the Baghdad Women's Association (BWA) conducted several workshops and training courses on gender, gender-based violence and the content of UNSCR 1325.

The CSOs used appropriate tools to gather information with high impartiality and from various sources; periodic reports were published, detailing their most important achievements, challenges and methods, with conclusions and recommendations submitted to the CSTF.

Among these reports was the report of the Iraqi Women Network on the implementation of the National Plan and the "Rased" Program implemented by the Iraqi Institute with a number of partner organizations. In the framework of this program, monitoring and evaluation activities were conducted throughout two years and a final independent report was published at the end of 2016.

To ensure a continuous follow up to the Alliance 1325, Iraqi Women Network and Iraqi Network 1325 maintained regular communication and coordination with the Follow-Up Teams in the Ministries.



Meeting Alliance 1325 Coordination Team  
*9th November 2016, Baghdad*

## CHAPTER 6

# CHALLENGES, CONCLUSIONS, LESSONS LEARNED, RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter outlines some main conclusions and lessons learned from the development and implementation process of NAP and makes some recommendations for the second NAP (2019-2021) that is currently under development by the CSTF.

### 6.1. CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the NAP had many challenges. Even though there was a strong commitment on behalf of the Federal government and the KRG to develop and implement the NAP, the start coincided with the invasion of ISIL in some Iraqi regions, which intensified military conflicts and created a deep security crisis in an already complex political situation. This environment hampered the implementation on more than one level. The massive displacement of people created huge and multiple needs that were beyond the available governmental resources and capacities in spite of the presence of international support. Add to this the economic crisis that affected the governmental efforts, influencing a change in priorities. The economic crises forced the government to remove the budget from the NAP, which was another main obstacle of conducting the activities according to the NAP, considering the timeframe. In this difficult situation, programs are still focusing predominantly on emergency and humanitarian aid, while ignoring the importance of women's rights and participation in long-term development.

Other challenges were linked to measuring the NAP's implementation. Even so, the CSTF exchanged experiences and learned from the best NAPs, as in Nepal and Georgia as well as from The Netherlands, and this has been a pioneering experience in the whole MENA region. The Iraqi government relied on their own resources and faced limitations related to capacities and technical skills.

There has not been a mid-term review for follow up, nor has there been an assessment of progress made towards the objectives. Without baseline data in relation to objectives, actions and indicators, it was not easy, and in some cases, not possible to track the rate of progress. Despite the cooperation and willingness of Ministries and Institutions, as well as of civil society, data collection was a challenge even if the Ministries had their own ministerial plans and monitoring forms. The data was missing or difficult to find, which indicates challenges in data collection and management systems. The monitoring of progress has been even more difficult in the absence of a Monitoring Body within the CSTF. This role has been played by the Operation Room 1325, later established as a Secretariat of CSTF. However, a disruption in their work, due to structural changes, has hampered their performance.

Frequent changes in the structure and responsibilities of members of the Ministerial and Institutional Follow-up Teams in charge of supervising and implementing the NAP also slowed down the process. Even if these teams have been trained in the field of M&E and women, peace and security issues, the CSTF still needs more capacity building and support in order to improve its effectiveness.

The stereotypical image of women's roles was a significant obstacle on governmental and community levels. Many discriminative laws are contributing to reproducing this image and are still impacting women negatively. Even if the CSTF has identified discriminative laws to be amended a priori, changing of public opinion and legislation take much longer time than the period of one NAP.

Furthermore, the limited financial and technical support of civil society organizations prevented them from fully playing their role.

### 6.2. CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

The development and implementation of the National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, 2014-2018 has been an exemplary collective process of work and a unique learning experience, as Iraq is the first country in the MENA region to have developed a NAP on UNSCR 1325. The Iraqi Government and the Kurdistan Regional Government have been committed and have strived to implement the NAP, despite all security and administrative challenges, political and economic obstacles, and crises Iraq faced. This is evident in the establishment of a national coordination structure and Follow-Up Teams in 23 Ministries and Institutions in Federal Iraq and KR-I.

The Ministerial Follow-Up Teams have been the backbone of the NAP implementation and instrumental in the development and review of other related plans, like the plan of the United Nations/Iraq Joint Communiqué addressing sexual violence. Therefore, there is a need to institutionalize gender training programs and programs that strengthen the capacities and monitoring and reporting skills of these units, in particular on required data collection. A better monitoring and evaluation framework will improve the reporting of the teams.

The NAP process opened the door to mainstreaming and institutionalizing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda and concerns on ministerial level and within departmental strategies. The Ministerial Follow-Up Teams developed Ministerial Plans, which reflect the priorities of the NAP and are aligned with Ministerial priorities. This process needs to be further strengthened during the development of the second NAP.

The NAP has been a unique tool to apply a multi-sector, comprehensive and inclusive approach necessary to address the multiple security needs of the most vulnerable women and girls, based on Iraqi commitment to international women's rights mechanisms. It has also been a complimentary tool to the already existing governmental efforts to strengthen women's rights and improve the status of women in society.

With an overall objective to contribute to social peace and security in Iraq, as well as stability and inclusive peace building in the region and globally, the NAP has provided a common platform to strengthen institutional, organizational and personal accountability, to promote and enhance cross sector cooperation and coordination on issues of women's rights and gender equality amongst diverse actors: from governments and institutions, to women's rights organizations, media and academics.

In this regard, committed leadership and engagement in this process, with a clear strategic vision and approach are evident. The process has consistently raised the awareness and the recognition of women's roles in peace building amongst different stakeholders and has provided an opportunity for involving and consulting a broad spectrum of groups, thus ensuring wide ownership. For the first time, the government has taken the responsibility to develop programs and actions related to women, peace and security and women's rights in general, something that until now has been usually carried out only by women's organizations.

Leadership, coordination and communication at the operational level are also important. There is a need to strengthen the Ministerial Follow-Up Teams leadership and support their regular meetings to share information and review progress made on the NAP.

The NAP has been developed as a flexible document; as such, it has been able to partially respond to difficult and changing circumstances in Iraq. In the context of the fierce terrorist attacks by ISIL in the Northern and Western regions, it has allowed the development of a one-year Emergency Plan, which reflected the priorities of the NAP, while being focused on addressing the urgent needs of displaced women and survivors of violence in the new emergency situation. The NAP has been a model for developing other national related plans, such as the implementing plan of the United Nations/Iraq Joint Communiqué addressing sexual violence.

The NAP has facilitated the development and maintenance of an open dialogue about the links between violence against women, peace and security, and sustainable development among decision and policy makers, security sector, legislators and civil society. It has provided opportunities

to increase awareness about women's rights through bringing knowledge on UNSCR 1325 as a tool for strengthening the role of women, addressing gender equality issues and influencing policy making.

Civil society has had a leading role in the process of development of NAP, demonstrating that civil society should be structurally included not only in the development but in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NAP. Iraq has developed a unique structure in the form of the CSTF that provides this structural inclusion and role, while safeguarding the independent role of the women's CSOs.

The NAP process has also contributed to strengthening the discussion on modification of related legislation as instructed in the Plan in Iraq and KR-I. Modification of laws takes longer time and requires the contribution of many actors. Therefore, the NAP process has been a tool for discussing legislation and the Legal Committee of the CSTF developed a position paper. The Legal Committee needs to be strengthened, the CSTF needs to improve the relation with legislators in the two parliaments and enhance the advocacy work on amending legislation.

The NAP is an important instrument that contributes to the aligning of national strategies, policies and actions with international women's rights mechanisms, such as CEDAW and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as it aims at taking action towards achieving gender equality, eliminating discrimination, and promoting inclusive peace as inseparable from sustainable development.

The cancelation of the budget for the NAP has had a negative effect on its implementation. Even if the Ministries have used their own budgets to implement some actions, these have been limited. Furthermore, lack of a specific budget for the NAP, or for specific ministerial budgets on NAP makes it difficult to coordinate NAP activities and collect data.

In this harsh context, exchanging practices and lessons learned from countries like Nepal and Georgia has played an important role in shaping the Iraqi NAP and avoiding loopholes. Today, Iraq is sharing its own experience and lessons learned both in the region and globally.

International support and solidarity have played a crucial role for the success of the NAP. In the extremely difficult militarized context of Iraq, the international community and the UN has the responsibility to recognize and support the collective efforts of government and civil society, and to coordinate themselves for the sake of enhancing the implementation of the NAP.

As a first NAP, the plan provides a solid experience and a basis for development of an improved second NAP. The report indicates a high level of commitment and a number of achievements. Recognizing as well challenges, weaknesses and limitations, the report provides transparent and honest evaluation.

### 6.3. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SECOND NAP

The CSTF has been a necessary platform to gather decision and policy makers around the issues related to the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. In order for the implementation to be effective on the local level, it is necessary to organize inclusive consultations during the development stage of the second NAP, localizing it more broadly in the concerned communities. It is important to engage local stakeholders as leaders of camps, local self-governments, local CSOs and CBOs, as well as the most vulnerable - female refugees, displaced women, and female victims of violence themselves, in order to better understand and identify priority areas and urgent initiatives. This will help include such priorities into the next NAP and improve the expected outcomes. These concerned groups should be involved in the process of monitoring and evaluation as well.

Localizing the second NAP will need more attention and guidelines for the local authorities on the implementation. The Secretariat in partnership with the Reconciliation Committee should make it a priority to work with the local authorities and camp leaders with involving women on the local level and at the management level.

More serious and effective efforts are needed to enhance women's participation in national negotiations and activities for security, for prevention of violent extremism, for national reconciliation and for peace building efforts.

In order to assess the impact of the NAP actions on the beneficiaries, improved monitoring and evaluation framework is required at the outset as well as the use of professional monitoring tools to capture both qualitative and quantitative indicators.

Data collection is of the utmost importance in order to enable monitoring of real change for women on the ground. Therefore, it is necessary to institutionalize data collection and continue with training programs for the Ministerial Follow-Up Teams.

To enable continuous follow up, the establishment of a Monitoring Group within the CSTF along with an independent civil society monitoring mechanism which will enhance implementation and reporting is recommended.

The development of programs addressing all the concerned stakeholders, especially political parties and legislators is needed, in order to increase women's participation and address gender stereotypes.

A budget and resources for the next NAP is a priority and is necessary in order to enable strict implementation.

More serious efforts are needed to achieve justice and ensure the accountability of perpetrators and violators of women's rights during and after periods of conflict, through providing legal services to women and strengthening legislation.

Enactment of laws for protection of women and enhancing their participation and equal opportunities is key. It is vital to raise broader awareness and campaign towards changing the public opinion in favor of women's rights and condemning VAW, while education should remain a priority to change gender based stereotypes.

Efforts to review and adopt legislation that respect the human rights of women in accordance with international standards, in line with international covenants and in accordance with the provisions of the Iraqi Constitution, are of the utmost importance, in order to support the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 itself. In this regard, the strengthening of the Legal Committee of the CSTF is a priority.

There is a need for coordinated and collaborative effort from the government agencies and civil society, as well as among the international partner organizations and UN Agencies on advancing the women, peace and security agenda, involving the beneficiaries themselves. CSOs, as well as INGOs, and UN Agencies should coordinate with and update the CSTF on activities and programs related to the NAP. Similarly, while implementing district level programs, NGOs should coordinate with the Secretariat of the CSTF. Such coordination will enable effective implementation and monitoring and will facilitate the preparation of a report on the impacts of the second NAP.

In order to raise public awareness about the national plan and to highlight its achievements, a well-structured media plan is required.

# ANNEXES

# ANNEX 1: DEVELOPMENTS OF IRAQ NAP FOR UNSCR 1325, 2012-2014

## A) SUMMARY OF MAJOR EVENTS

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>First Workshop</b> Representatives CSOs and networks Federal Iraq and KRI: Exchange experience with Nepal and Bandana Rana</p> <p><b><i>Towards Development of a National Action Plan for implementation in Iraq of the UNSCR 1325</i></b></p> <p>25th- 27th April 2012, Amman</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision on concrete steps for widening the process; formed CS Reference group</li> <li>• Identified relevant actors: civil society actors, governmental, UN agencies and international actors</li> <li>• Identified challenges and opportunities related to development of NAP and ways to strengthen the process</li> <li>• Defined roles and responsibilities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Second Workshop:</b> Strategic Meeting of Civil Society Reference Group Lessons Learned from Nepal: Bandana Rana</p> <p><b><i>Developing National Action Plan for implementation in Iraq of UNSCR 1325</i></b></p> <p>28th – 29th July 2012 Beirut</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation of a national civil society reference group: Iraq NAP 1325 Initiative (<b><i>I-NAP 1325 Initiative</i></b>)</li> <li>• Developed argumentation on the need of NAP for Iraq and an outline of a NAP framework with goal, specific objectives and main principles/pillars</li> <li>• Outlining a preliminary plan of action for the I-NAP 1325 Initiative</li> </ul>
<p><b>Consultation Meeting:</b></p> <p><b><i>I-NAP 1325 Initiative and UN WOMEN</i></b></p> <p>13th August 2012, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN Women supports national consultations on development of NAP 1325</li> </ul>
<p><b>Consultation Meeting:</b> I-NAP1325 Initiative</p> <p><b><i>Common methodology for national consultations</i></b></p> <p>3rd October 2012, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common work methodology for all consultations meetings developed</li> <li>• Working plan until the end of the year</li> </ul>
<p><b>Consultation Meeting:</b> I-NAP1325 Initiative and Stakeholders</p> <p><b><i>Towards a NAP for implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Iraq</i></b></p> <p>4th October 2012, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building political will, raising awareness and building consensus among different stakeholders</li> <li>• A set of recommendations for the development of the NAP provided</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>National Roundtable:</b> I-NAP1325 Initiative, Decision makers, State actors, Legal and Gender Experts, Security Apparatus</p> <p><b><i>Why a NAP to implement UNSCR 1325 in Iraq</i></b></p> <p>19th – 20th October 2012, Beirut</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tentative framework for NAP developed</li> <li>• Goal, Purpose and Objectives identified</li> <li>• Identification and confirmation of Six Pillars</li> <li>• Started work on formulation of Strategic Objectives, Specific Actions and Desired Results for each pillar</li> </ul>
<p><b>Consultative Meeting:</b> I-NAP1325 Initiative and Stakeholders</p> <p><b><i>Towards a NAP for implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Iraq</i></b></p> <p>30th October 2012, Sulaymaniyah KR-I</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set of recommendations for developing of NAP 1325 in Iraq</li> <li>• Awareness about UNSCR 1325 and common understanding</li> </ul>
<p><b>National Workshop:</b> I-NAP1325 Initiative, State actors, MPs from the Federal Iraq and KRG, Legal experts, Gender experts, Security Apparatus</p> <p><b><i>NAP 1325 Framework Refining</i></b></p> <p>4th- 5th April 2013, Beirut</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAP 1325 Cross-Sectional Task Force (CSTF) formed consisting of governmental actors, MPs, I-NAP1325 Initiative, legislators, security sector. It elected its two Chairs from Federal Iraq and KRG</li> <li>• Three sub committees of CSTF formed and their chairs elected: Drafting Committee; Financial Committee; Legal Committee</li> <li>• Logframe of NAP developed with refined strategic objectives, specific actions, expected results, indicators, implementing agencies and time framework for each of the six pillars</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Legal Committee CSTF:</b></p> <p><b><i>Legal Pillar and discriminative laws</i></b></p> <p>25th- 26th May 2013, Parliament KRG, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSOs discuss discriminative legislation with decision makers</li> <li>• Common Identification of discriminative legislation for women in Iraq, as major hinders for implementation of UNSCR1325 (Sixteen articles identified)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Legal Committee CSTF:</b></p> <p><b><i>Recommendations for changing discriminative legislation</i></b></p> <p>7th July 2013, Ministry of Interior, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further discussions on formulations and articles to be recommended for cancellation from legislation</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Meeting Drafting Committee CSTF:</b> <i>Drafting NAP 1325</i></p> <p>7th July 2013, Ministry of Interior, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The different components of the NAP discussed and a schedule on finalizing the different parts made</li> <li>• The content agreed and tasks distributed among the committee</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Cross-Sector Task Force NAP 1325:</b> <i>Validation of work and decision of CSTF NAP Committees</i></p> <p>7th – 8th July 2013, Ministry of Interior, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearing, discussion and validation of the report of the Legal Committee and Drafting Committee</li> <li>• Validation of the pillars of the NAP</li> <li>• Next steps</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting with Minister of Interior KRG:</b> CSTF Members received by Minister Sinjari</p> <p><i>Reporting progress made in development of NAP 1325</i></p> <p>8th July 2013, Ministry of Interior, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presenting the progress made in development of NAP and its importance</li> <li>• Getting full support and commitment of the Minister of Interior</li> <li>• A discussion on the need to change discriminative legislation and next steps</li> </ul>
<p><b>Press Conference:</b> Over 200 people attend</p> <p><i>Developing in Iraq of NAP 1325: Progress made</i></p> <p>8th July 2013, Ministry of Interior, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the work in progress of the NAP to the broader community.</li> <li>• Reaching out broadly and spreading the information.</li> <li>• Accumulation of political will.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Financial Committee CSTF:</b> The Committee members and expert trainer</p> <p><i>Developing a budget NAP 1325</i></p> <p>9th – 10th October 2013, High Council of Women, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building the budget for each pillar</li> <li>• Developing detailed budget framework</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting I-NAP 1325 Initiative and Stakeholders:</b> Minister for Women’s Affairs, President’s Advisors, Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, State actors, UN, civil society</p> <p><i>Marking the Anniversary of UNSCR 1325</i></p> <p>31st October 2013, Council of Ministers, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building political will and awareness raising</li> <li>• Preparing for adoption of the NAP</li> <li>• Minister of Women engaged in taking concrete steps for adoption of the NAP</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Exchange trip to Georgia:</b> CSTF</p> <p><i>Exchange experience and lessons learned; Finalizing the NAP1325</i></p> <p>13th – 15th November 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange of experience and lessons learned with civil society, UN, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior</li> <li>• Lessons learned of major challenges from implementation M&amp;E process.</li> <li>• CSTF discuss and validate NAP</li> <li>• Last draft NAP discussed and final changes proposed and agreed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Launching the NAP 1325, 6th FEB 2014 in Baghdad</b> Prime Minister attended and gave his public commitment to work towards approval of the NAP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High level of visibility; influencing balance of power to accumulate of political will</li> </ul>
<p><b>National Conference:</b> CSTF and Ministry of Women</p> <p><i>Launching Iraq NAP 1325: From Words to Action</i></p> <p>6th February 2014, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PM attends</li> <li>• High level visibility</li> <li>• NAP gets public and governmental support</li> </ul>
<p><b>National Conference KR-I:</b> CSTF, Ministry of Interior and High Council for Women KRG</p> <p><b>Launching Iraq NAP 1325: From Words to Action in KRG</b></p> <p>12th March 2014, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High level visibility.</li> <li>• Political support and will established</li> </ul>
<p><b>NAP 1325 presented to the Council of Minister Baghdad by the Minister of Women Dr. Ibtihal Al Zaydi and adopted by the Council of Minister on 6th of April 2014</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iraq becomes first country in the MENA to have adopted a NAP1325</li> <li>• Iraq among the few countries in the world to have developed a budget, even if not adopted</li> <li>• Iraq unique experience where civil society is structurally involved in the development, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the NAP 1325</li> </ul>

B) PHOTO ALBUM DEVELOPING OF NAP 1325



First Workshop on developing NAP 1325, held on 25th – 27th April 2012, Amman with Secretary of State of Norway Gry Larsen, Bandana Rana, President of CSO Saathi Ekantakuna and Member of Nepal Government’s High-Level Steering Committee on UNSCR 1325, and Euromed Feminist Initiative



Second strategic meeting Civil Society Reference Group  
28th - 29th July 2012, Beirut

Meeting I-NAP1325 Initiative and UN Women Iraq  
13th August 2012, Baghdad



I-NAP1325 Initiative Consultative Meeting  
4th October, 2012 Erbil

NAP1325 Initiative Consultative Meeting  
30th October 2012, Sulaymaniyah



NAP 1325 Framework Refining Workshop  
4th – 5th April 2013, Beirut



CSTF Validation Meeting  
7-8 July 2013 Ministry of Interior, Erbil



Minister of Interior KRG Mr. Sinjari receiving CSTF  
8th July 2013 Ministry of Interior Erbil



Press Conference  
8th July 2013, Ministry of Interior, Erbil



Meeting Financial Committee of CSTF, Finalizing the budget of the NAP  
9th - 10th October 2013 High Council of Women, Erbil



Minister of Women's Affairs Dr. Ibtihal Al Zaydi and INAP1325 Initiative  
31st October 2013, General Secretariat of Council of Ministers, Baghdad



Exchange trip Georgia, Finalizing the NAP1325  
13- 15 November 2013 , Tbilisi Georgia

National Conference launching in Iraq NAP 1325, 6th February 2014,  
Baghdad



National Conference launching in Iraq NAP 1325  
12th March 2014, Erbil

## ANNEX 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF NAP FOR UNSCR 1325, (2015-2017)

### A) SUMMARY OF MAJOR EVENTS

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Meeting CSTF:</b></p> <p><i>Monitoring the implementation of NAP 1325</i></p> <p>24th May 2015, National Parliament, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges in implementation of NAP1325 discussed</li> <li>Recommendations for immediate implementation</li> <li>Discussing the adoption of the one year emergency plan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring Meeting CSTF:</b></p> <p><i>Held under the chair of Minister Sinjari and SG of Women High Council, Ms. Bakshan Zangana</i></p> <p>13 December 2015, Ministry of Interior Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reaffirming CSTF as a driving element of the process of implementation of the NAP and the crucial role of the civil society;</li> <li>Stressing vital role of CS, in particular Alliance 1325, even if execution of NAP belongs to the Ministries and Institutions;</li> <li>Recognition of the need to define ToR and working mechanisms for the CSTF;</li> <li>Planning ToR of CSTF</li> <li>Affirming major problems: lack of knowledge of NAP on grassroots level, thus the need to work with all Governorates, lack of budget thus the role of CSTF to advocate the ministries to allocate from their ministerial budget</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring Meeting CSTF</b></p> <p><i>Held under the chair of Minister Sinjari and SG of Women High Council, Ms. Bakshan Zangana</i></p> <p>23rd February 2016, Ministry of Interior, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ToR and the structure of the CSTF presented and adopted. Follow up and M&amp;E Mechanism presented</li> <li>MoI to send a letter to all the concerned Ministers with the outcomes of the meeting</li> <li>The respective Ministries to appoint DG to assemble Follow up Teams to work on developing Ministerial Plans and follow up on implementation</li> <li>Alliance 1325 in cooperation with WHC and EFI to provide support to Ministries to develop own plans in frame of NAP1325 and its one year emergency plan</li> <li>Ministries will prepare draft plans and present them in a workshop in March-April</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>CSTF Training M&amp;E and development of Ministerial Plans</b></p> <p><i>Ministerial Follow up Teams with Operation Room 1325</i></p> <p>6th -7th April 2016, Erbil</p> <p><b>Iraq:</b> Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Prime Minister’s Office, 1325 Operation Room in Baghdad, National Security, Reconciliation committee.</p> <p><b>KRG:</b> Department of Foreign Relations, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Religious Endowment, Ministry of Peshmerga and Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, High Council of Women, Independent Board of Human Rights.</p> <p>Altogether 44 stakeholders and members of the Alliance 1325 participated. Minister of Interior and SG of Women High Council (KRG), open and co-chair the morning session.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reiterated commitment by KRG to implementation of NAP 1325 and provided leadership for the Ministries to develop their action plans.</li> <li>• Introducing the structure of the CSTF to the Ministerial Teams, broad ownership of the process</li> <li>• Strengthening common dynamic and increased cooperation and coordination;</li> <li>• Increased knowledge of Ministries about the pillars of NAP and how to develop their specific action plans accordingly</li> <li>• Presentation of draft Ministerial action plans and to be submitted to Operation room for formatting and assembling the Master Plan with all Ministerial plans.</li> </ul>
<p><b>National Symposium</b></p> <p><i>Follow up on implementation of NAP 1325</i></p> <p>26th May 2016, Erbil</p> <p>Under the patronage of KRG Ministry of Interior and Women High Council, Alliance 1325 follows up the implementation of INAP 1325, with a big number of State actors, international actors and diplomats, and UN agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raising awareness and informing the general public of progress made in the implementation of the NAP 1325</li> <li>• Building political will and knowledge on investing in the implementation of the NAP and allocating budget.</li> </ul>
<p><b>CSTF Workshop:</b></p> <p><i>Follow up and M&amp;E Kurdish Ministerial Follow up Teams</i></p> <p>22nd June 2016, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening the process</li> <li>• Strengthening skills on content and implementation</li> <li>• Planning together next steps</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Meeting of the Coordination of CSTF:</b></p> <p><i>Follow up and M&amp;E</i></p> <p>20th - 21st July 2016, Women National Council in Erbil</p> <p>Operation Room, members of reconciliation committee and Alliance 1325; Mol and WHC KRG, Legal experts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates on development of Ministerial action plans in Baghdad and Erbil</li> <li>• Planning next steps to implement April decisions</li> <li>• Developing working cohesion of Coordination team</li> <li>• Launching the work of the Legal Committee – agreement on producing a draft document with identified discriminative laws to be annulled based on previous work of the Legal Committee</li> </ul>
<p><b>Launching Program to support implementation of NAP</b></p> <p><i>Women, Peace and Security Program UN Women and CSTF</i></p> <p>20th July 2016, Erbil</p> <p>Minister of Interior, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Secretary General of Women High Council (KRG) and UN Women sign a program to implement the NAP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN Women supports financially the implementation of the NAP</li> <li>• Coordination among different actors improved</li> <li>• The program responds to urgent need for protection of women and girls who suffered grave impact of displacement and have been subjected to horrific form of sexual and gender based violence</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Legal Committee CSTF:</b></p> <p><i>Improving Legal Framework</i></p> <p>22nd July 2016, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft text with laws to be annulled and justification, based on the work of the previous Legal Committee</li> </ul>
<p><b>Follow up Meeting Ministerial Teams in Baghdad:</b></p> <p><i>Under the Chair of Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Affairs</i></p> <p>10th August 2016, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building group cohesion and enhancing coordination and cooperation</li> <li>• Enhancing follow up on the Ministerial plans</li> <li>• Strengthening common interest to implement and monitor</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Coordination of the CSTF</b></p> <p>10th August 2016, Embassy of Netherlands, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening of common voice</li> <li>• Enhancing common action and follow up</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Meeting Legal Committee CSTF:</b></p> <p><i>Draft paper discriminative legislation that hampers implementation of UNSCR 1325</i></p> <p>11th August 2016, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaging new members of the Women’s Committee of the Parliament Baghdad for the work of the CSTF Legal Committee</li> <li>Presenting and discussing the draft paper by the legal experts with identified laws</li> </ul>
<p><b>CSTF Coordination Meeting Secretary General of Council of Ministers</b></p> <p><i>Reporting follow up and progress made NAP implementation</i></p> <p>11 Aug 2016, SG Office, Council Of Ministers, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presenting progress made in implementation of NAP</li> <li>Ensuring SG Council of Ministers leadership of CSTF</li> <li>Requesting allocation of budget for NAP</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting SG Council of Ministers with leadership cadres of General Secretariat of Council of Ministers</b></p> <p>29th August 2016, Council of Ministers, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved knowledge of objectives of the NAP 1325 at the leadership staff level at the GS of Council of Ministers</li> <li>Improved coordination and follow up</li> </ul>
<p><b>Follow up Meeting Coordination of CSTF:</b></p> <p><i>Preparation Reporting of Ministerial Follow up Team</i></p> <p>30th August 2016, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building common understanding of M&amp;E process</li> <li>Preparation for the training for the Ministerial Teams</li> <li>Launching of CSTF High Level Conference</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting of the Follow up Ministerial Teams of CSTF</b></p> <p><i>Training on advocacy by Operation Room</i></p> <p>31st August 2016, Erbil</p> <p>All Ministerial and Institutional Follow up Teams from Baghdad and Erbil participated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting and common discussion of Ministerial plans in NAP1325</li> <li>Enhanced skills of Ministerial and Institutional Follow up Teams to follow up their plans and advocate for policy changes</li> <li>Enhanced implementation of NAP through engaging the Ministerial Teams in cooperation and coordination with each other and with international community</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>CSTF High Level Conference:</b></p> <p><b><i>Launching the implementation of NAP 1325 in Iraq</i></b></p> <p>1st September 2016, Erbil</p> <p>Meeting of all Ministerial Follow up Teams, Reconciliation Committee, National Security Apparatus, legal experts and women’s rights organizations from the Alliance 1325 and INAP 1325 Initiative from Baghdad and Erbil with UN Agencies, MPs, diplomats and international actors interested in supporting the implementation of the NAP in Iraq. Reporting progress made in the implementation by each Ministry and Institution and by civil society</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced discourse on the link between peace and democracy-building and the central role of women’s rights in both</li> <li>• Improved dialogue between decision makers and CSOs on women’s participation in rebuilding of Iraq</li> <li>• Important step in advocating for allocation of budget by Federal government as well as Ministries</li> <li>• Strengthened coordination with international community</li> <li>• The draft document by the Legal Committee presented to Ministerial Teams and general public</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting CSTF with Minister of Interior KRG</b></p> <p><b><i>Reporting progress made in implementation of the NAP</i></b></p> <p>1st September 2016, office of Minister of Interior KRG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reporting on progress made and planning CSTF Conference in Baghdad in October as a step in the process increasing political will.</li> <li>• Updates on the work of the Legal Committee</li> </ul>
<p><b>CSTF High-Level Conference</b></p> <p><b><i>Follow up and Monitor implementation of NAP 1325</i></b></p> <p>27th October 2016, Baghdad</p> <p>Provided opportunity for all ministerial and institutional teams from the Task Force, members of parliament, legal experts and women’s rights organizations, representatives from UN agencies and international community to come together and discuss during one day the level of the implementation of the NAP1325 in Iraq</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concrete discussions on responsibilities of CSTF, propositions for changing of discriminative laws, independent monitoring of the civil society of the implementation of the NAP, the role of the international community in supporting NAP</li> <li>• Raised visibility of the NAP and its issues - PM was informed</li> <li>• High level political will in Baghdad</li> </ul>
<p><b>Study Trip CSTF to the Netherlands</b></p> <p>15th January 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong messages delivered at Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Justice</li> <li>• Good common dynamic and coherence</li> <li>• Strong presence and speech on the situation in Iraq and the work of CSTF</li> </ul>

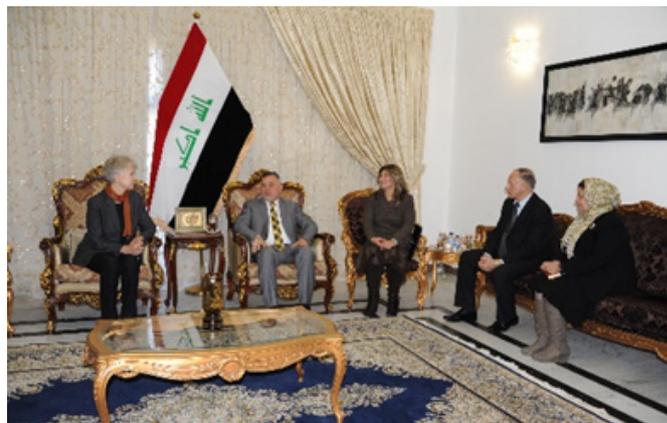
MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Workshop:</b></p> <p><b><i>Women, Peace and Security and NAP 1325</i></b></p> <p>29th January 2017, Department of Foreign Affairs Office, KRG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased knowledge of women's role in peace building</li> <li>• Increased knowledge on NAP 1325 and the role of DFR</li> </ul>
<p><b>Awareness Session:</b></p> <p><b><i>Follow up NAP 1325</i></b></p> <p>21st February 2017, Department of Agriculture Babylon Governorate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raising awareness on UNSCR1325</li> <li>• Follow up on implementation of NAP Involving local level leaders in implementation of NAP</li> </ul>
<p><b>Training Legal Course:</b></p> <p><b>Attendees: Judicial investigators and Police Officers</b></p> <p>Arranged by Women Empowerment Organization, Investigator Organization for Rule of Law and UN Woman</p> <p>18th and 25th March 2017, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah, KR-I</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased knowledge on UNSCR 1325 and Iraq NAP</li> <li>• Increased awareness how to work with victims of SGBV</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Alliance 1325:</b></p> <p><b>PM Advisor National Reconciliation Mr. Mohammed Al-Saadi</b></p> <p><b><i>Follow up on NAP 1325</i></b></p> <p>19th April 2017, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up implementation of NAP, participation of civil society and action plan of the Reconciliation Committee for women survivors of violence and minorities in liberated areas</li> </ul>

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES
<p><b>National Seminar Coordination CSTF</b></p> <p><i>Progress in the implementation of NAP 1325</i></p> <p>30th March 2017, Erbil</p> <p>Attended by Head of Foreign Relation Department, Minister of Interior, Secretary General of Women High Council, the Director General of the Women's Empowerment Department of Iraqi Council of Ministers, Coordinator CSTF, representative of KRG Ministries, diplomats and consular representatives, Baghdad Operations Room 1325, international and local NGOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutional assessment of challenges Ministerial Follow up Teams face in implementation of the Ministerial Plans</li> <li>• Identification of gaps &amp; recommendations</li> <li>• Improved coordination</li> </ul>
<p><b>Follow up and monitoring meeting:</b></p> <p><i>Coordination Committee CSTF</i></p> <p>25th July 2017, Office of Legal Adviser to President of Iraq</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up of NAP implementation of the Ministerial Follow up Committees</li> <li>• Periodic Report produced</li> <li>• Discussing the new UNSC Resolution No. 2367 in July 2017 on lack of implementation of Iraq NAP and planned response action</li> </ul>
<p><b>Follow up Meetings Ministerial Teams:</b></p> <p><i>Secretariat CSTF follow up and monitoring</i></p> <p>November 2017, Baghdad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection for the national report on implementation of NAP initiated</li> <li>• Improved follow up by Ministerial Teams</li> </ul>
<p><b>Follow up CSTF Meeting - KRG</b></p> <p>10th August 2017 Ministry of Interior, Erbil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following up the implementation of NAP</li> <li>• Mechanism and timing of submission of Ministerial reports</li> <li>• Response to UN SC resolution 2367 (2017)</li> </ul>

## B) PHOTO ALBUM FOLLOW UP AND MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NAP 1325



Follow up Meeting of CSTF with Speaker of Iraqi Parliament  
24th May 2015, Iraq Parliament, Baghdad



CSTF representatives meeting with advisor of  
Prime Minister, 23rd February 2015



CSTF Follow up and monitoring meeting on implementation of NAP  
13th December 2015, Ministry of Interior KAR



CSTF meeting with SG Council of Ministers, Dr. Mahdi Alallaq (middle)  
reporting on NAP implementation  
11th August 2016, Council of Ministers



WHC KRG Monitoring implementation of NAP with SG Bakshan Zangana, 14th August 2016



Discussing Ministerial Plan of Ministry of Education (KRG) with Minister Sadiq, 15th August 2016



Meeting SG Council of Minister with leadership cadres of General Secretariat  
29 August 2016, Council of Ministries Baghdad



Launching CSTF Ministerial Plans to implement NAP, 1st September 2016, Erbil



Legal Advisor President Iraq Mr Kenani, (left) present Iraq experience NAP 1325 at Euromed Women's Rights Conference 28-29 November 2016, Beirut



Study Trip of CSTF to the Netherlands, 15th January 2017



Workshop DFR Office WPS and NAP 1325 29th January 2017



Department of Agriculture in Babylon Governorate 21st February 2017



Alliance 1325 meeting with Mr. Mohammed Al-Saadi, (Middle), Advisor to PM for National Reconciliation, 19th April 2017



National Follow up Seminar on NAP 1325 30th March 2017, Erbil



Meeting Coordinating Committee CSTF  
25th July 2017, Office of Legal Adviser to President of Iraq



Secretariat CSTF at Ministry of Finance reviewing implementation of Ministerial Plan, Nov 2017



Secretariat CSTF at Ministry of Health reviewing implementation of Ministerial Plan, Nov 2017



Follow up Meeting of CSTF at Ministry of Interior KRG,  
10th August 2017, Erbil

## ANNEX 3: LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS

### PILLAR ONE: PARTICIPATION

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Women engaged in the design and management of humanitarian activities during armed conflict and during post-conflict</p>	<p>A. Trainings of women leaders to participate in Peace teams</p> <p>B. Review &amp; amend policies (security and civil service) to enable women participation on local &amp; national level</p> <p>C. Provide a database of women in leadership and decision-making positions</p> <p>D. Form women's emergency teams to address women issues</p>	<p>Number of women and presence of women's rights in formal peace building structures &amp; process in Iraq</p> <p>Number of women in senior management level and in the peace negotiations mechanisms</p>	<p>Improved policy and legislation, enhanced status and role of women</p> <p>A higher level of women's participation in decision-making positions especially during the conflict</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Increased N: women in security forces - Increased N: of women involved in Explosive Hazard Management and Clearance</li> <li>* Discriminative legislation identified</li> <li>* Position paper with proposed legal amendments developed by Legal Committee of CSTF</li> <li>* Committee for Peaceful Co-existence on Women's Issues was established under SG of Council of Ministers in 2018</li> <li>* The UN gender group established date base with the government. Further details not provided</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Women are involved in peace-making, negotiations, conflict- resolution and in the peace agreements</p>	<p>A. Trainings on UNSCR 1325</p> <p>B. Trainings on gender equality</p> <p>C. Training on national reconciliation, peace- building and negotiation skills</p> <p>D. An analytical study on women’s role in decision making mechanisms in Iraq during peace and the conflict</p>	<p>N: of women in senior leadership positions, in reconciliation committees &amp; peace initiatives</p>	<p>Increased N: of women in reconciliation committees, peace initiatives and strategic committees</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* A high N: of trainings on UNSCR 1325 for Ministries, Civil Society and National Institutions provided</p> <p>* Over 500 women from 10 governorates trained on mediation and negotiation and post conflict security</p> <p>* More awareness and knowledge on UNSCR 1325</p> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <p>* Increased level of awareness has not resulted in increased number of women in reconciliation committees, only in CS peace initiatives</p>
<p>Representation of women from conflict-ridden communities in conflict-resolution, to be part of conflict prevention &amp; achieve sustainable peace</p>	<p>A. Trainings for women to run for elections and women voters</p> <p>B. Awareness raising on the importance of women’s participation in decision-making</p> <p>C. Training of women in political parties</p>	<p>N: of women running for decision-making positions and peace negotiations N: of women who get those positions</p>	<p>Presence of WR and increased N: of women in senior decision -making positions in centers and in peace negotiation committees</p>	<p><b>Limited data available or provided</b></p> <p>* According to the estimations by NGOs this has not been achieved and women are still largely underrepresented in reconciliation work on local leve</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Women returnees are involved in reconstruction &amp; rehabilitation in their places of origin</p>	<p>A. Empower women returnees to reach decision-making in reconstruction</p> <p>B. Pressure authorities to support small projects for returnees and provide grants &amp; loans</p> <p>C. A field study on work opportunities for women in the camps</p>	<p>Increased number of women in local governments</p> <p>Level of social and economic stability</p> <p>Employment rate of women returnees</p>	<p>Improved situation of women at local level</p>	<p><b>Limited data available or provided</b></p> <p>* According to the estimations by NGOs this is very likely not achieved and the situation has even worsened due to the ISIL's attacks and terror destruction</p> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <p>* No field study was realized</p>
<p>Displaced women are encouraged and supported to participate in the camps' management and in dealing with women's issues</p>	<p>Trainings for displaced women in management of camps and addressing the needs of displaced people</p>	<p>Improvement in the general situation of camps, especially on social and psychological level</p> <p>Decreased N: of complaints by IDP</p>	<p>N: of women who are able to manage the camps and deal with displaced people</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* CSOs have provided trainings on leadership, UNSCR 1325, PSS and legal support in most of the camps (appx 60%) in provinces that host IDPs and refugees.</p> <p>* A pool of strong women is available in each of these camps</p> <p><b>Limited data available or provided</b></p> <p>* Even if the interviewed CSOs confirmed program implementation in the camps, no concrete data was provided</p> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <p>* Availability of pool has not resulted in increased N of women leaders of camps</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Women are empowered economically and socially via implementation of specially designed programs</p>	<p>A. Cooperation with authorities to grant loans to women to start small businesses and help them find jobs</p> <p>B. Empower IDP women by erasing illiteracy &amp; enhance their chances of employment by helping complete their studies</p> <p>C. Coordinate to create a program that empowers IDP women through loans and vocational training</p>	<p>Improved economic situation of women</p> <p>Increased knowledge of women on the importance of their role in society</p> <p>N: of women receiving loans and participating in trainings</p>	<p>Women returnees and survivors get economic independence by getting job opportunities</p> <p>Low illiteracy rate and high level of education among the displaced</p> <p>Displaced women are empowered</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going on-going</b></p> <p>* Programs Economic Empowerment have been offered to refugees and IDPs in the camps by international and local CSOs: ex WEO, AI Mathala, AI Amal, WRO, in partnership with WCC, Seed Organization, UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR</p> <p>* Displaced, returnee women from most affected governorates got capacity building to run business through trainings from NRC with UNAMI and UN Women</p> <p>* WEO in KR-I providing trainings on economic empowerment of IDPs</p> <p><b>No data available</b></p> <p>* No data has been collected and no impact study has been made to asses if and how these programs have contributed to increase in level of education or empowerment of IDPs</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Ensure a fair, proportional representation &amp; participation of women in all reconciliation committees, in negotiations &amp; peace-building</p>	<p>A. Trainings on UNSCR 1325</p> <p>B. Trainings on gender &amp; women participate in decision making; security, military, special forces &amp; civil inst.: level GD</p> <p>C. Lobby relevant decision makers to support women's representation and participation</p> <p>D. National meeting for reconciliation committees on 1325 &amp; Charter 4 women's participation in the committees</p>	<p>N: of women in senior leadership positions</p> <p>Percent of women in government institutions</p> <p>N: of women in reconciliation committees</p>	<p>Increased women's participation in government</p> <p>Government adapted laws that enhance women's participation as per IC</p> <p>Increased women's participation in the reconciliation committees</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* Increased N: of women judges and public prosecutors</p> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <p>* No laws to enhance women's participation were adopted. Women quota as per constitution is in force</p> <p>* Reconciliation Committee appointed only one woman on a leadership position</p> <p>* Women participation in the reconciliation committees has not been increased</p>

## PILLAR TWO: PROTECTION

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Protection of IDP women and reducing violence against them, and ensuring there's no impunity for perpetrators by integrating women's rights in the legal and security systems</p>	<p>-Establishment of specialized centers in camps to receive victims and survivors of violence and provide the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Urgent health-and reproductive health services</li> <li>b. Psychosocial Services</li> <li>c. Female police services for quick response</li> <li>d. Legal services</li> <li>e. Social and economic empowerment services</li> <li>f. Establishment of a data base of beneficiaries of the above centers</li> <li>g. Training courses for survivors of sexual abuse to rehabilitate and re-integrate them back into society</li> </ul>	<p>Participation of rehabilitated women in various fields of public life; Psychological, social and economic stability of the rehabilitated</p>	<p>Survivors of violence are Integrated in society</p> <p>Women get protection and maintain their personal freedom and dignity</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* Women have better protection as shelters &amp; mobile teams have been established by Mol, MoLSA and CSOs with the financial support of the UN Women, UNHCR and UNFPA and provide PSS, GBV case management and legal support</p> <p><b>Governmental level</b></p> <p>* National Plan established for implementation United Nations/Iraq Joint Communiqué 2018-2019</p> <p>* There is an approval to establish one shelter in Baghdad by MoLSA</p> <p>* In KR-I there are 3 governmental shelters in Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah run by MoLSA and Mol. In 2015, 1 center specifically for IDPs (Yazidi mostly) was established in Duhok run by Mol and MoH with support from UNFPA</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
				<p><b>Civil Society</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* In Iraq, there are more than 140 listening centers/ women community centers run by CSOs supported by UNFPA, UNHCR and UN Women</li> <li>* In KR-I, there are over 25 listening centers and 2 shelters run by CSOs, 1 for Yazidi women</li> </ul> <p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* A project has been initiated to establish a data base by CSOs and MoLSA</li> <li>* Training courses have been provided by the CSOs</li> </ul> <p><b>No data available</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* No assessment has been made on level of integration in society</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Ensure the return of women who were abducted or went missing during military operations and armed conflict</p>	<p>A. Pressure authorities to take urgent measures for the return of missing, abducted women</p> <p>B. Reach out to displaced families to inquire the N of missing women</p> <p>C. Coordination with gov. and non-gov. agencies to establish the fate of the abductees</p> <p>D. Coordination with INGOs and Agencies on fate of missing and abductees</p> <p>E. Comprehensive survey on the reality of displaced women</p>	<p>N: of missing, abducted and survivor women matches the number investigated</p> <p>Number of displaced women and survivors of armed violence</p> <p>Gathered information with all indicators</p>	<p>A database on survivors, abductees and missing to ensure access and support</p> <p>Integrated database on reality and state of displaced women, their problems, and potentials</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* A data base at Mol in KR-I exists</p> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <p>* No survey on the reality of IDP women has been undertaken</p> <p>* Coordination on fate of missing has remained weak</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Ensure fair treatment of IDPs through urgently investigating IDP complaints, guaranteeing no impunity for perpetrators</p>	<p>A. Campaigns to pressure authorities and HR bodies to take needed measures and ensure fair treatment of IDPs</p> <p>B. Appoint policewomen to police stations in the camps</p> <p>C. Appoint experts in the protection centers to ensure anonymity with registration of complaints from women victims of violence</p> <p>D. Follow up with competent authorities on measures taken to address the complaints</p>	<p>The N: of policewomen in camps</p> <p>The N: of complaints filed by IDP women</p> <p>The N: of security breaches in camps</p>	<p>Availability of legal services to displaced women</p> <p>Availability of legal and judicial protection for complainers</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* Women have got better protection as shelters and mobile teams have been established by Mol, MoSLA and CSOs with the financial support of the UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNICEF, NPA, Oxfam, Medica Mondial and provided PSS and legal support (see above p. 4 Pillar 2, Objective 1)</p> <p>* According to UNMAS 23 female commissioners are working in Mousul, Kirkuk and Anbar at check points for IDPs camps</p> <p><b>No data provided</b></p> <p>* No data is collected on N: of women received support</p> <p>* No comprehensive data is collected on the N: of policewomen appointed in the police stations and camps. (see above UNMAS)</p> <p>* No data collected regarding impunity of perpetrators</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Ensure application and implementation of laws to protect women who have been subjected to abduction or sexual assault</p>	<p>A. Exert pressure on relevant authorities to pass and enforce laws that guarantee protection for female victims from abuse and kidnapping</p> <p>B. Open shelters for survivors, provide protection and address their needs</p> <p>C. Allocation compensation for survivors</p> <p>D. Trainings to survivors' families to ensure their understanding</p>	<p>Decrease in arbitrary measures and abuses against survivors</p>	<p>Protection and care for women who have been subjected to violence and rape during military operations and conflicts</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* Trainings and awareness raising campaigns have been organized by the CSOs for families of survivors of SGBV and local communities</p> <p>* On shelters, see above p. 4 Pillar 2, Objective 1</p> <p>* 3 shelters- Erbil, Duhok, Sulaymaniyah- provide support to IDP victims of SGBV</p> <p><b>No data provided</b></p> <p>* No data on compensation of survivors has been provided nor estimation if a decrease in arbitrary measures and abuses against survivors has been noted</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Empowerment of IDP women economically and socially to fully utilize the human resources in camps</p>	<p>A. Training and rehabilitation of IDP women to implement small income- generating projects</p> <p>B. Fundraising to support IDP women</p> <p>C. Coordination with government and private sector to provide job opportunities for IDP women</p> <p>D. Program to rehabilitate IDP women professionally and psychologically, and to re-integrate them into their communities</p>	<p>Number of women participating in trainings and rehabilitation courses</p> <p>A decreased percentage of women living below the poverty line</p>	<p>Rehabilitation of IDP women subjected to armed violence</p> <p>The economic status of IDP women is improved</p>	<p><b>No data provided</b></p> <p>* No data is available or provided to estimate if the economic status of women has improved.</p> <p>* No gender segregated data is available to assess if the % of women living below the poverty line has decreased.</p>
<p>IDP women are ensured safe return and decent life</p>	<p>A. Cooperation with authorities to secure areas of return</p> <p>B. Opening of specialized centers to provide the basic needs for returnees</p> <p>C. Trainings to rehabilitate returnees and integrate them into society: Working with relevant entities on provision of medical services</p>	<p>N: of women wanting to return and settle in areas of origin</p>	<p>Favorable circumstances for returnees; guarantees to dignity and safe living</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* Trainings and awareness raising campaigns have been organized by the CSOs for families of survivors of SGBV and local communities have contributed to improving environment for return</p> <p><b>No data available or provided</b></p> <p>* No data is available or provided on N: of women to return</p>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Harmonization of national legislation with international standards on WR including UNSCR 1325 to ensure prosecution of perpetrators of crimes against women and to bring women justice</p>	<p>A. Exert pressure on the House of Representatives to pass the law on prohibiting VAW</p> <p>B. Coordinating with relevant committees at the Federal House of Representatives to review discriminative legislation</p>	<p>The percentage and N: of survivors from violence</p>	<p>Laws that guarantee the protection of women and their rights</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-goin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Coordination among stakeholders has increased to a high level resulting in developing of draft law on domestic violence.</li> <li>* HCW KRG and UN Women provided in 2017 trainings for 52 judges</li> <li>* UN is investigating on violence during conflict in Iraq</li> </ul> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* No laws protecting women from SGBV have been developed.</li> <li>* The draft law on combatting domestic violence not adopted yet</li> </ul>
<p>Equal opportunities for women and men to access economic resources</p>	<p>A. Exert pressure on decision-makers to issue policies that guarantee equal opportunities for women and men</p> <p>B. Work to increase government support for women victims of the war/conflict</p> <p>C. Creating partnerships with private and civil sectors to support and empower women</p>	<p>Employment rates according to gender segregated statistics</p> <p>Government policies and level of care for victims</p> <p>Number of programs and employment rates</p>	<p>Decreased rates of poverty and unemployment among women</p> <p>Improved services for victims of military operations and human trafficking</p>	<p><b>No data available or provided</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* No segregated data on access to labor market or participation thereof is available or provided</li> <li>* Governmental policies has had focus on protection due to the situation</li> <li>* One CSO has provided services to women victims of trafficking</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation</p>	<p>A. Enforcement of Task Force to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the NAP (cross sector: govern agencies- Alliance 1325)</p> <p>B. Structural participation of women CSOs in M&amp;E of NAP</p> <p>C. Training of cadres from these NGOs to increase their capacities in preparing reports</p>	<p>Nature of the monitoring and evaluation</p> <p>Participation of NGOs in monitoring process</p> <p>Increased awareness of women's issues &amp; role in peace and security</p>	<p>M&amp;E process is activated</p> <p>Institutionalized structure for M&amp;E</p> <p>Access to data through reports of CSTF</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <p>* CSTF increased its members to 23 ministries and institutions who developed ministerial plans to implement the NAP and monitor it</p> <p>* Trainings on M&amp;E provided to Follow up Ministerial Teams. However, capacity building is still needed to improve indicators, data collection and M&amp;E</p> <p><b>Achieved</b></p> <p>* CSOs are structurally represented in the CSTF</p> <p>* Discriminative laws that hamper implementation of UNSCR 1325 identified</p>

PILLAR THREE: PREVENTION

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Mainstreaming gender in all policies and fields including raising awareness of service provider</p>	<p>Providing trainings for relevant institutions on working with IDP women and women affected by the conflict</p>	<p>Level of positive performance of security authorities and service -providers from gender and HR perspective</p> <p>N: of conducted awareness seminars</p>	<p>Increased awareness on human rights on the concept of gender for service providers</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Numerous trainings have been implemented by CSOs, who report an estimated increased awareness on women’s rights among service providers</li> <li>* There is improved performance of security authorities as noted in the reports of the NSA and more women are actively involved in Explosive Hazard management and clearance</li> <li>* All ministries and institutions in CSTF have provided trainings on gender and 1325 for their relevant staff working with IDP women on in cooperation with the CSOs</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Integration of human rights, values of equality, justice and principles of gender in all policies, programs and projects the security authorities</p>	<p>A. Gender mainstream policies and programs to ensure equality and justice</p> <p>B. Awareness sessions and workshops on capacity building on gender</p> <p>C. Printing brochures, holding seminars, workshops, and lectures</p>	<p>N: of policies, plans and programs that are inclusive of gender, justice and equality</p> <p>Laws activated and enforced properly</p>	<p>Women are empowered economically and socially</p> <p>Increased awareness by the security authorities of the values of equality and justice</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* An Action Plan for the implementation of UN- Iraq Joint Communiqué on SGBV has been developed</li> <li>* Gender is integrated in National Development Plan 2018-2022</li> <li>* The UN investigation on GBV during conflict</li> <li>* Security authorities are better aware about women rights as per the report of the NSA</li> <li>* A draft law on domestic violence law is under discussion</li> </ul>
<p>Mainstreaming gender in policies and processes relating to resolution and prevention of conflicts and peace building in Iraq</p>	<p>A. Capacity building staff reconciliation committees on UNSCR 1325</p> <p>B. Form committees to review government's policies and political parties programs; to pressure for inclusion of WR and 1325</p>	<p>N: of qualified people hired within the committees of reconciliation</p> <p>Positive changes in policies and programs</p>	<p>Policies related to conflict resolution and peace-building</p> <p>Improved awareness of personnel working in ministries concerned with Security Council resolution 1325</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Capacity building provided by UNAMI and CSOs to reconciliation committee and all members of CSTF</li> <li>* The Legal Committee of CSTF has provided a paper with identified laws to be amended</li> <li>* An Action Plan for the implementation of UN Iraq Joint Communiqué on SGBV on place</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Women are empowered and have improved capacities and awareness of their rights</p>	<p>A. Form committee to review school curricula and pressure for mainstreaming gender</p> <p>B. Training courses on gender for boys and girls in schools to increase awareness on WR &amp; promote positive behavior</p>	<p>N: of women empowered, campaigns and programs</p> <p>N: of beneficiaries from the training courses</p>	<p>Women and girls have increased awareness of their rights</p> <p>Men become more aware of women's rights and their role in society in accordance with the gender analyses</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Trainings on gender at schools provided by MoE and CSOs</li> <li>* Slow increase in awareness as per report of MoE and CSOs</li> <li>* Curricula has been reviewed in KR-I - Center for Gender Studies established in KR-I</li> </ul> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* No Committee has been formed in Federal Iraq to examine the school curricula</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS	LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS
<p>Adoption of legislation that respects human rights according to international standards and in line with international human rights conventions</p>	<p>A. Form a committee to review the legal provisions that are against women's rights and push for their amendment</p> <p>B. Conducting training programs for judges to raise their awareness of discriminative legislation</p>	<p>Decreased levels of discrimination against women</p> <p>Women victims of VAW dare to raise complaints following exposure to violence</p>	<p>Social acceptance of the principle of equality</p> <p>An increase in the number of complaints and persecutions</p>	<p><b>Partially achieved and on-going</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Legal Committee of CSTF has provided a paper with laws that hamper implementation of UNSCR1325</li> <li>* HCW KRG and UN Women provided in 2017 trainings for 52 judges</li> <li>* HCW KRG annual campaigns during "16 days of Activism" to raise awareness on violence against women, including SGBV, availability of services (2011 to 2017) and under preparation for 2018</li> <li>* CSOs in Iraq and KR-I annual campaigns during 16 days of Activism advocating for the law on domestic violence, raising awareness VAW and addressing social tolerance</li> </ul> <p><b>Not achieved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The level of social acceptance of principle of equality is still very low according to CSOs reports. Longer time and more stability is needed</li> </ul> <p><b>No data available or provided</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* No data provided on N: of complaints related to VAW</li> </ul>

## ANNEX 4: SUMMARY OF NAP PILLARS GOALS, OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES

### IRAQ NAP HAS THREE PILLARS: PARTICIPATION, PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

PILLAR 1: PARTICIPATION		
STRATEGIC GOALS	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mechanisms to ensure fair and proportional representation and participation of women in decision-making positions at both the local and national levels.</li> <li>Ensuring fair and proportional representation and participation of women in all reconciliation committees, civil peace councils and peace-building negotiations.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women draw, identify and manage humanitarian activities during the conflict and recovery.</li> <li>Women participate in decision- and policy-making, in peace negotiations and initiatives.</li> <li>Women from conflict-ridden communities participate in conflict resolution process to achieve sustainable peace.</li> <li>Returnee women are involved in reconstruction of areas of origin.</li> <li>Displaced women are supported to participate in management of camp and in dealing with women’s issues.</li> <li>Programs for the empowerment of women at the economic and social levels are developed and implemented.</li> <li>Women are represented and participated in all reconciliation committees, in negotiations and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An analytical database that contributes to a clearer picture of women’s participation.</li> <li>Increased awareness among employees of Ministries and in the society at large on the importance of women political participation.</li> <li>Promotion women’s participation in judicial work; provision of more gender sensitive jurisprudence, contributing to reducing extrajudicial marriage.</li> <li>Increased women representation in embassies and foreign missions.</li> <li>Women participation in camp management is promoted.</li> <li>Increased women’s participation in decision-making in Ministries has made their response more gender-sensitive.</li> <li>Women participating in the activities related to the UNSC 1325 have better are empowered to participate in negotiating and peacebuilding.</li> </ul>
PILLAR 2: PROTECTION		
STRATEGIC GOALS	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection for women from gender-based violence and safe shelters for victims and survivors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IDP women are protected and reducing violence against them reduced and no impunity for perpetrators is supported by integrating women’s rights in the legal and security systems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced VAWG and provision of legal and PSS leading to increased security and stability index; policewomen receive women victims.</li> </ul>

STRATEGIC GOALS	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitation and reintegration in society of women victims of violence during the transitional phases of the armed conflict and beyond.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kidnapped or missing women during the armed conflict have returned.</li> <li>Fair treatment of IDPs through urgently investigating complaints, guaranteeing no impunity for perpetrators.</li> <li>Laws to protect women who have been subjected to kidnapping or sexual assault are implemented.</li> <li>Empowerment of IDP women to fully utilize all human resources in camps.</li> <li>Ensuring safe return and decent life of IDP women.</li> <li>Harmonize national legislation with international standards on WR including UNSCR 1325 to ensure prosecution of perpetrators of crimes against women and to bring women justice.</li> <li>Providing equal opportunities for women and men to access economic resources.</li> <li>Mobilizing resources, monitoring and evaluation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security and safety provided to over 1 mil IPD women and girls from Nineveh, Saladin, Kirkuk, Diyala and Al-Anbar governorates due to ISIS and follow liberation operations.</li> <li>Over 50,000 food baskets delivered in humanitarian response.</li> <li>A high N: women survivors of violence better integrated in society; preserved rights, dignity, psychosocial rehabilitation, and improved social and economic stability.</li> <li>Better protection of displaced families by receiving and referring complaints to authorities.</li> <li>Receiving and recovering back home more than 1000 Yazidi and Turkmen women and girls survivors of ISIL.</li> <li>Over 13,500 complaints from battered women received; initiated investigations and legal proceedings.</li> <li>Legal protection of women improved through provision of legal services in different governorates and filing over 300,000 women’s cases.</li> <li>Grants provided to 1,779 Yazidi, Shabaki survivors of ISIS-freed Al-Alam sub-district.</li> <li>Improved living conditions in camps by financial grants and assistance to IDP women from ISIL occupied areas.</li> <li>Better health care for IDP women thanks to provision of free access to adequate health care services.</li> </ul>

STRATEGIC GOALS	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governmental PSS centers for women victims of violence established in seven governorates (Baghdad, Karbala, Najaf, Babil, Saladin, Diyala and Al-Anbar).</li> <li>• Improved services to women due to the sensitization, education and training of service providers in camps.</li> </ul>

**PILLAR 3: PREVENTION**

STRATEGIC GOALS	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policies and processes related to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace-building in Iraq gender mainstreamed.</li> <li>2. Raising awareness, empowering women and enhancing their capacities through rights based approach.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainstreaming gender and raising awareness of service providers.</li> <li>• Integrating human rights, values of equality, justice and principles of gender in all policies, programs and projects of security authorities.</li> <li>• Mainstreaming gender in policies and processes related to resolution and prevention of conflicts and peace building.</li> <li>• Empowering women and improving their capacities and awareness of their rights.</li> <li>• Adopting legislation that respects human rights according to international standards and in line with international women’s rights conventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved knowledge and awareness on international WR standard and tools among Ministerial staff in CSTF.</li> <li>• Increased awareness on women’s rights and gender equality among service providers, and delivering a more gender sensitive response.</li> <li>• Improved knowledge and skills among employees of Ministries and security authorities to deal with women survivors of sexual violence during and after the armed conflict.</li> <li>• Progress in understanding of gender among staff at Ministries of CSTF.</li> <li>• UNSCR 1325 and gender equality mainstreamed in programs and policies of majority Ministries in CSTF.</li> <li>• Positive change with regards to gender stereotypes of women and men role in society among both leaders and employees of the Ministries in the CSTF.</li> <li>• Improved public awareness of women’s rights and the impact on women of SGBV. Better public acceptance of victims of SGBV.</li> </ul>

June 2015 4

Baghdad

**SESSION OF THE TASK FORCE 1325 ON MONITORING THE  
IMPLEMENTATION IN IRAQ OF NAP1325**

MAY 24TH 2015 IRAQI PARLIAMENT, BAGHDAD

# REPORT

**On enacting mechanisms for implementation of the Iraqi National Action  
Plan for UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security**

Rapporteur: **Dr Tareq Rashid**, Member of Parliament Iraq and Task  
Force1325

# ON THE STATUS OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR UNSCR1325 AND ENACTING MECHANISMS ENACTING ITS IMPLEMENTATION

## THE IRAQI PARLIAMENT, GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT OF IRAQ

- Following the approval of Iraqi government on the National Action Plan, hereafter NAP, prepared by Cross Sector Task Force1325 of experts from parliament, government institutions, legislators and ministries, from the Federal Government and Kurdish Regional Government and of 1325 Alliance in the civil society, and with the aim of enhancing women position and participation in peace building and decision making in post conflict situations and the protection of women from all forms of violence that they are subjected to, particularly with current circumstances where ISIS is still in control in Iraq,
  - Having regard to the urgent need for the implementation of the pillars of the NAP and the achievement of its fundamental purpose has become a legal and international commitment, particularly the pillars related to protection, prevention and provision of security and life saving items for thousands of displaced families and responding to women needs,
  - Having regard to article 7 from the NAP “Institutional arrangement for the implementation of the Action Plan”,
1. Whereas The Task Force1325 has the responsibility to enact mechanisms for the implementation of the NAP. The confidence in the Task Force1325 to have developed the NAP and insistence to enhance women position in our society give us more capabilities to work more on monitoring and evaluation of its implementation;
  2. Whereas State organizations and government are have the obligation to help improve people’s lives;
  3. The Task Force 1235 met in the Iraqi House of Representatives on May 24, 2015 through the support of the Speaker of Parliament Dr. Salim Al-Jubouri and under his Honorary Chairing;
  4. The Task Force 1325 requests from the highest legislative institution in the country to start urgently the implementation of the National Action Plan 1325 as per the following mechanisms:

## IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL ACTION PLAN AND UNSCR 1325

### At the Legislative level

1. Commends the Iraqi House of Representatives to take the initiative by playing its primary roles (monitoring & legal) to follow up the implementation of the NAP.

2. Calls on the Parliament to urgently prioritize to modify the related legislations accordingly and as instructed in the NAP to help improve women situation and put an end to violence against women; and ensure their leadership role in the society and participation in peace building and national reconciliation and avoid regarding women as victims of violence and conflicts only, but as equal partners in decision making.
3. Calls on the Iraqi parliament to form an ad hoc committee from the parliamentary committees of (legal committee, women committee, human rights committee and immigration committee) under the guidance and including the members of the Task Force1325 to work on the implementation of the plan.

### At the Executive Level

4. Calls on the Iraqi federal government, the provinces and the Kurdistan Regional Government to urgently develop programs and mechanisms to implement the content of UNSCR 1325 through their ministerial committees under the supervision of Ministry of State for Women Affairs and the coordination of the Task Force 1325 in coordination with the ministries of (Labor and Social Affairs, Interior, Defence, Human Rights, Immigration & Displacement, Education, and Independent Commission of Human Rights);
5. Calls on the government to allocate funds from the national budget and cooperating with other international and UN agencies to implement this NAP;
6. Calls on the government to start with the implementation of the one year emergency plan developed under the NAP by the 1325 Alliance and the Ministry of State for Women Affairs;

### At the Presidential level

7. Highlights the legal and constitutional commitment of the president of Iraq;
8. Calls on the application of the international and humanitarian laws and international resolutions harmonizing them with local legislations through modifications and enactment of new laws in the respect of the content of UNSCR 1325;
9. Calls for a serious effort by the president to include women in political processes and reconciliation efforts and peace building;

### At the Judicial Level

10. Calls on the judicial bodies to achieve rule of law and impartiality and preparing sufficient numbers of judges

who can deal with women issues including cases of detainees, malicious issues, and not allowing women to be part of conflict resolution due to religious, political and sectarian reasons;

**At the Level of Civil Society**

11. Underlines the important role the civil society play and calls on the active participation of civil society organizations, humanitarian organizations and Mass media to do their job and providing them with opportunities to participate in the implementation of the plan and assisting the state institutions.

The Task Force 1325 members who met and issued this report consist of:

<b>Mr. Saleem Algburi</b>	Speaker of Iraqi Parliament, Baghdad
<b>Mr. Ameer Hussein</b>	Advisor to the President of Iraq President Office
<b>Mr. Mudhir Mujamea</b>	Prime Ministry Office
<b>Ms. Bayan Nouri</b>	Minister of Women Affairs
<b>Dr. Tariq Rasheed</b>	Member of Parliament
<b>Mr. Mushriq Al Akbawi</b>	Member of Parliament
<b>Ms. Amal Jala Mohammed</b>	Women High Council, KRG
<b>Ms. Ban Shakir Alimarah</b>	Council Ministers-Head of Women Office National Security Affairs
<b>Ms. Parween Ameen</b>	Human Right Commission - Baghdad
<b>Ms. Shatha Alabosi</b>	Office, Speaker of Parliament
<b>Ms. Ban Al Sabri</b>	Office Director, Parliament Iraq
<b>Ms. Salma Jabou Haydaw</b>	Former Advisor to Former President of Iraq
<b>Ms. Suzan Maroof</b>	Coordinator of 1325 Alliance and Executive Director Women Empower Organisation, Erbil
<b>Ms. Boriانا Jonsson</b>	Ms. Boriانا Jonsson Executive Director Euromed Feminist Initiative