

ACTION PLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS No.
1325 AND 1820 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY
for the period 2010–2015

INTRODUCTION

Among the basic principles and values that underlie the interest of the Republic of Slovenia in participating in international operations and missions are the strengthening of democracy and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. This framework also includes promotion of equality of women and protection of vulnerable groups, such as children and, in some environments and circumstances, also women.

By assuming exceptionally important roles in society, women can, especially if supported in a timely and sufficiently strong manner by all international actors endeavouring to prevent, stop and eliminate conflicts, contribute significantly to the prevention, termination reconciliation of conflicts. The different roles of men and women associated with armed conflicts require all who endeavour for peaceful solutions to apply diverse approaches before, during and after conflicts; to this end, the planned promotion of the culture of peace and of the principle of gender equality is required.

Women and girls are also victims of armed conflicts. They are deliberate targets of various forms of violence, primarily sexual. They are also found among those population groups most affected by the consequences of armed conflicts, which include poverty, lack of resources and various forms of violence and deprivation of human rights.

With UN Security Council Resolution 1325 adopted in October 2000, efforts to recognise the active role of women and to afford them more effective protection against violence gained the political support of all UN member states. The Resolution summarises all existing international obligations relating to non-violence, peace and security of women, and introduces a number of principles on the basis of which women are no longer identified only as victims but also given a significant role in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, in peace negotiations, peace operations and missions, humanitarian activities and activities in post-conflict situations

In June 2008, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1820, which addresses sexual violence in armed conflicts and explicitly links the maintenance of international peace and security with prevention of sexual violence as a tactic of war. In 2009, Resolutions 1888 and 1889 were adopted with a view to strengthening the commitment of the international community to preventing sexual violence against girls and women, and empowering women.

The implementation of these Resolutions is a priority task of the European Union's foreign policy. As a step towards implementing these most effectively, two documents were adopted in December 2008: the *EU Comprehensive Approach to Implement UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security* and the *Document on implementing UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 within the European Security and Defence Policy*. In December 2008, the EU Council adopted conclusions on the review of the implementation by Member States and EU institutions of the Beijing Platform for Action, encouraging Member States to draw up national action plans or other measures to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

Facilitating an active role of women in ensuring international peace and security is a priority in the foreign-policy strategy of Slovenia.

With the aim of enhancing the participation of Slovenia in international operations and missions, the Government adopted, on 12 November 2009, a Strategy of Participation of the Republic of Slovenia in International Operations and Missions, defining a framework for decision-making on participation and identifying a range of capacities for its implementation. Article 31 of the Strategy stipulates that a national plan for enhancing women's role in matters of peace and security in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 be prepared.

The Strategy puts a special emphasis on providing equal opportunities to participate in international operations and missions at all levels and regardless of gender. Slovenia is aware of the importance of participating in international operations and missions aimed at ensuring international peace, stability and democracy, and at the of strengthening the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms and providing assistance in the event of natural and

other disasters. In these situations, particular emphasis must be placed on efforts to create solidarity with and compassion for the affected population, and to stabilise crisis areas.

The Government decided to prepare a national action plan on the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and security for the period 2010–2015, to define in greater detail measures to strengthen the role of women in preventing and resolving armed conflicts and ensuring and maintaining peace. To this end, a working group was set up consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and the Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Equal Opportunities. The working group also cooperated with representatives of other ministries, governmental offices and civil society.

Objectives of the Action Plan

The main objectives of the Action Plan of the Republic of Slovenia for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 are:

- gender mainstreaming into policies for conflict prevention and resolution and into decision-making and implementation processes, and strengthening of the role of local women in conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction;
- increased participation of women in international peace operations and missions and in peace-building
- prevention of sexual violence against girls and women and their protection during and after armed conflicts.

The Action Plan defines political, operational and staff commitments undertaken by the Government to achieve the stated objectives. It encompasses international and national commitments and identifies competences and methods for effectiveness assessment of the implementation of objectives.

OPERATIONALISATION OF OBJECTIVES

- 1. Gender mainstreaming into policies for conflict prevention and resolution and into decision-making and implementation processes, and strengthening of the role of local women in conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction**

Political commitments

- The Government will continue to emphasise the importance of gender mainstreaming at all levels of planning and implementation of crisis-management operations, in which increased involvement of women ensures additional quality, a different mentality or approach to maintaining peace and peace-building.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Slovenia will strive for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 by relevant international and regional organisations, whereby all stakeholders would set tangible and measurable objectives, allocate appropriate financial resources, ensure equal and active participation of local actors (including organisations promoting gender equality), and develop a method of evaluating the achievement of objectives of activities relating to conflict prevention and resolution and sustainable peacebuilding.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Slovenia will be committed to the efficient and systematic working of the new UN entity for gender equality and women's empowerment and its coherent functioning within the UN system, in particular its work with executive boards of funds and programmes dealing with development cooperation. Special attention will be devoted to the operational functioning of the new entity, including the promotion of its work with related specialised bodies outside the UN system.

Institution responsible for implementation:: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Slovenia will advocate an increase in the number of special advisers on women's rights in field missions of the UN, EU and other regional organisations within the available funds of individual missions. It will also endeavour to adequately increase the committed budget funds of these organisations.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Slovenia will strive for the UN mechanism for the promotion of equality between men and women in national legislation to start operating as soon as possible as well as for its effective implementation.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Within Slovenia's international multilateral activities and bilateral relations with third countries, in particular with countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, Slovenian representatives will regularly underline, also at a high level, the importance of equal participation of women in decision-making processes and in peacekeeping and peace-building activities.

Institutions responsible for implementation:: President of the Republic, National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, Government and all ministries, services and offices

- The Government will include the issue of empowerment of women for their participation in decision-making processes in all further resolutions on development cooperation.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Slovenia will continue to encourage the creation of conditions for sustainable peacebuilding, including activities in the field of demining and rehabilitation of mine victims, stressing the need for mainstreaming of a gender perspective.

Institutions responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Health

Operational commitments

- The Government will foster the development and implementation of projects aimed at empowering and educating women and girls in third countries, including through co-funding, which will incorporate development and security aspects and the promotion of human rights.

Coordinator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other ministries

- The Government will enhance systematic training of public servants and officials in the judiciary at the national level on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820, international humanitarian law and international human-rights law, in particular women's rights and gender equality. To this end the Government will cooperate with experts and competent non-governmental organisations in the relevant fields.

Institutions responsible for implementation: all competent ministries.

- The Government will foster cooperation with national and international research institutions and non-governmental organisations with a view to encouraging the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into their studies and projects on the conflict prevention and resolution and on maintaining peace and peace-building.

Institutions responsible for implementation: all competent ministries and Slovenian Research Agency

Human resources commitments

- The Government will, within the scope of the budget, second at least one Slovenian expert in women's rights to at least one international UN, NATO, EU and/or OSCE operation or mission, thus increasing the international visibility of Slovenia and giving added value to one of the key priorities of Slovenian foreign policy.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other competent ministries

2. Increased participation of women in international peace operations and missions and peace-building

Political commitments

- Slovenia will actively endeavour to increase the involvement of women in international peace operations and missions and peace-building within the UN, EU, NATO and OSCE.

Coordinator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with other competent ministries

- The Government will reinforce the effectiveness of political decision-making, policy shaping and promotion of political and public dialogue at the national level with regards to the significance of and need for equal participation and involvement of women as decision-makers at the national and international level, and their engagement as experts in international operations and missions and international organisations. To this end, the Government will cooperate with competent non-governmental organisations.

Institutions responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Equal Opportunities, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior

Operational commitments

- The Government will promote and create necessary conditions for balanced participation of women in international operations and missions by providing positive incentives and other motivational factors to support and gradually increase women's participation in international operations and missions.

Institutions responsible for implementation:: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Administration

- In accordance with the Strategy of Participation of the Republic of Slovenia in International Operations and Missions, the Government will endeavour to ensure that all competent ministries observe the principle of equality and professional competence in planning quotas of civil experts from various professional fields in line with balanced representation of men and women.

Coordinator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other competent ministries

- The Government will reinforce cooperation in projects with non-governmental organisations aimed at promoting involvement of women in conflict prevention and resolution, peace negotiations, peace operations and missions, humanitarian activities, development projects and activities supporting lasting peace and stability in post-conflict situations.

Coordinator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with other competent ministries

Human resources commitments

- The Government will increase the share of women in decision-making processes at the national level and encourage them to compete for leading posts in bodies of international organisations (UN, NATO, EU, OSCE and others).

Institutions responsible for implementation:: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Equal Opportunities, Ministry of the Interior

- The Government will ensure gender-balanced representation in diplomatic missions of the Republic of Slovenia abroad, including those in countries facing instability and conflict situations.

Institution responsible for implementation:: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- The Government will encourage female citizens of the Republic of Slovenia to participate in electoral-observation missions (run by EU, OSCE, etc.), thereby gradually training women to assume more responsible tasks in election observation missions and preparing them for potential participation in international operations and missions.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other competent ministries

- The Government will encourage recruitment of women into the Slovenian Armed Forces and Police.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Defence and Ministry of the Interior

3. Prevention of sexual violence against girls and women and their protection during and after armed conflicts

Political commitments

- Within the framework of international organisations, in particular UN, NATO, EU, Council of Europe, OSCE, and within the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy, Slovenia will systematically draw attention to the issue of violence against girls and women, particularly to sexual violence. In this respect, Slovenia will put forward initiatives to improve the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1882, 1888 and 1889 [for new projects] and its monitoring.

Coordinator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other ministries

- Slovenia will make every effort to support the effective work of a Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. The Government will also cooperate with the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence Against Children.

Coordinator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other ministries

- Slovenia will promote the application of protection procedures for women who are victims and witnesses before the International Criminal Court and the fulfilment of

obligations of states in dealing with sexual violence; it will also make further efforts to combat impunity for these criminal offences.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice

- Slovenia is actively supporting the drafting of an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which will establish a communication procedure under this Convention, including sexual violence against girls, and will contribute towards prevention of sexual violence against girls and their protection in armed conflicts.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other competent ministries

Operational commitments

- The Government will increase its financial contributions, within the scope of the budget, for activity of international funds in the field of gender equality and protection of women's rights, in particular within the framework of the new UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; pending the start of its operations, Slovenia will also provide financial support to the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTFEVAW).

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with other competent ministries

- Slovenia will continue to provide financial support to the Trust Fund for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- The Government will ensure that the Codes of Conduct for Personnel Deployed in International Operations and Missions Abroad include content on the prevention of sexual violence against girls and women and their protection during and after armed conflicts.

Institutions responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior in partnership with other ministries

- The Government will amend national legislation if appropriate, so as to prosecute and sanction sexual-violence offences committed by Slovenian staff during military, civil, diplomatic and other operations and missions.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Justice in partnership with Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Legislation and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of the Interior

Human resources commitments

- Slovenia will, within the scope of the budget, second at least one expert to the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict or to the Secretariat of the International Criminal Court or any other appropriate international or regional organisation dedicated to combating sexual violence against girls and women.

Institution responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Justice and other ministries

- The Government will promote and carry out education programmes for public servants and officials in the judiciary in third countries and awareness-raising programmes to improve the identification of sexual violence against girls and women. Particular emphasis will be placed on the issue of violation of women's rights and gender-based political, social and cultural discrimination and violence. This will contribute towards preventing offences of this kind and strengthening the fight against impunity for sexual-violence offences in accordance with international law and national legislation of individual states. The Government will cooperate with competent non-governmental organisations to this end.

Institutions responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Justice, and other competent ministries

- The Government will endeavour to integrate issues of gender equality and sexual violence, gender-related violence and trafficking in human beings, rights of women applying for international protection and of women asylum seekers, and sanctions in cases of violation, into programmes carried out as part of comprehensive and systematic education and training of public servants and officials in the judiciary participating in international operations and missions or seconded to diplomatic representations of Slovenia, particularly in countries engaged in armed conflict.

Institutions responsible for implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Administration

IMPLEMENTATION AND REALISATION OF COMMITMENTS

Key implementing institutions

The implementation of the Action Plan is a project of national importance; the Action Plan is binding for the Government and all line ministries and authorities designated by law. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Public Administration, and the Government Office for Equal Opportunities are the key implementing institutions.

The Government and individual ministries will ensure that international and Slovenian experts and competent non-governmental organisations are appropriately included in the implementation of the Action Plan. They will also work with the expert public and civil society on the ground.

Assessment and audit

For successful implementation of the Action Plan and assessment of its effectiveness, the Interministerial Working Commission on Human Rights will review the Action Plan every two years and, if necessary, suggest to the Government appropriate amendments and additional activities. In the year in which the Action Plan expires, an audit will be carried out and a new plan elaborated. These tasks will be carried out by the Government, in cooperation with the expert public and competent non-governmental organisations where appropriate.

Informing the public and the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia

In line with the principle of transparency, the Government will devote appropriate attention to public diplomacy and providing information to the public.

The Government will inform the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia on the implementation of the Action Plan every two years.

Reporting

The reporting on the implementation of the Action Plan will be coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Government will include the reporting on the implementation of the Action Plan into regular periodic reports provided by Slovenia within the framework of its international obligations.

ANNEX I

Table for the implementation of the Action Plan of the Republic of Slovenia for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 in the period 2010–2015

1. Gender mainstreaming into policies for conflict prevention and resolution and into decision-making and action-taking processes, and strengthening of the role of local women in conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction of crisis areas				
ACTIVITY	RESPONSABILITY	STATUS	OBJECTIVE	FIRST REPORTING
Emphasise the importance of gender mainstreaming at all planning and implementation phases of crisis-management operations when deciding on new operations and on restoring or extending existing operations not already facilitating mainstreaming.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (hereinafter: MFA)	Slovenia supports gender mainstreaming at all planning and implementation phases of crisis-management operations within the Common European Union (EU) Security and Defence Policy.	Gender mainstreaming at all planning and implementation phases of crisis-management operations.	End of 2012
Stress the need for better implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) in international and regional organisations.	MFA	Slovenia co-sponsored UNSCR 1820, 1882, 1888 and 1889 that build on the commitments under UNSCR 1325 and encourage the implementation of its provisions. Slovenia joined an initiative of nine NATO members to send a powerful message on NATO's further commitment to implement the Resolution. Slovenia supported the preparation and adoption of EU guidelines on violence against women and girls and combating all forms of	Better implementation of UNSCR 1325 within activities of the UN, NATO, OSCE and EU linked with conflict prevention and resolution.	End of 2012

		discrimination against them. Representatives of Slovenia participated in various events in the framework of the 10 th anniversary of the adoption of UNSCR 1325.			
Promote effective and efficient functioning of the new UN entity for gender equality and the empowerment of women and support its coordinated efforts with other actors within the UN system and cooperation of actors outside the UN system.	MFA	Slovenia actively participated in the drawing up of the GA Resolution on the new entity, in particular within preparation of EU positions. The new entity will begin operation on 1 January 2011.		Effective and efficient functioning of the new entity, including its coordinated action with other actors within the UN system and cooperation of actors outside the UN system.	End of 2012
Stress the need to increase the number of special advisers on women's rights in the UN, EU and other regional organisations' field missions within the funds available to individual mission.	MFA	New task.		Increase the number of special advisers on women's rights in the UN, EU and other regional organisations' field missions within the funds available to individual missions.	End of 2012
Make efforts towards an appropriate increase in committed funds within the budgets of the aforementioned organisations for participation of advisers on women's rights in missions.	MFA	New task.		Increase the number of special advisers on women's rights in the UN, EU and other regional organisations' field missions.	End of 2012
Participate in setting up a UN mechanism for equality of women and men in national	MFA	Since the launching, Slovenia has been actively involved in the initiative to set up the UN Human		Promote efficient functioning of the UN mechanism for equality of women and men in national	End of 2012

legislation.			Rights Council Mechanism for gender equality in national legislation and is a member of a core group of countries working to set up this mechanism. An international conference on equality of women and men in national legislation was organised by the MFA and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Slovenia in May 2010. A special expert working group on equality of women and men in national legislation was established in the 15th session of the UN Human Rights Council. Slovenia was actively involved in lobbying for the resolution. The new mechanism must still be approved by the UN General Assembly.	legislation.	
Include the issue of empowerment of women for participation in decision-making processes into future resolutions on development cooperation adopted by Slovenia.	MFA		Women's empowerment has been included in the 2010 development cooperation programme.	Include the issue of women's empowerment for participation in decision-making processes into a new resolution on development cooperation.	2015
Stress the importance of equal participation of women in decision-making processes and in peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities within	President of the Republic National Assembly Prime Minister		Speeches by the President of the Republic and of the National Assembly at the International Conference on Equality of women and men in national legislation on 12	Increase the awareness of the significance of equal participation of women in decision-making and actions to maintain and build peace in third countries, in particular those	End of 2012

multilateral and bilateral relations with third countries, in particular those in conflict and in post-conflict situations.	all competent ministries, services and offices	May 2010 in Ljubljana; MFA – Speech delivered by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to mark the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 on the margins of the 65th UNGA session on 25 September 2010 in New York; – Speeches by the State Secretary (MFA) at the International Conference on Equality of women and men in national legislation on 12 May 2010 in Ljubljana; – Speech by the State Secretary (MFA) in the introductory part of the 13th regular session of the UN Human Rights Council on 2 March 2010 in Geneva; – Active participation of other representatives of MFA in numerous events within the UN. Ministry of Defence (MD) – The Minister of Defence received a group of Albanian women on a study mission to Slovenia (<i>Albania: Study Mission to Slovenia for Participants of Women's Advocacy and Election Campaigns Program</i>, Ljubljana, 15 May 2009); – Speech by the Minister of Defence at the European Women in Power	in conflict and post-conflict situations.
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		Summit on 3 February 2010 in Cádiz (Spanish EU Council Presidency); – Speech by the Minister of Defence at Bled Strategic Forum on 30 August 2010; – MD representative took an active part in the consultation held in June 2010 in Washington DC, entitled <i>Engaging Women in Security, Defense, and Peacekeeping in Southeastern Europe: Outlining Needed Curriculum</i>; – Two MD representatives made contributions to the regional conference entitled <i>Women and the Security Sector, UN Security Council Resolution 1325</i> held in Belgrade. Office for Equal Opportunities (OEO) During the French EU Council Presidency, the OEO participated in the preparation of the review and indicators for monitoring the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (on women in armed conflict) in Member States and EU institutions, and in drafting EU Council conclusions on indicators on women in armed	
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Promote (including co-finance) and implement projects for empowering and educating women and girls in third countries and also cooperate in such projects.	MFA ^(c) all competent ministries	conflict, adopted in December 2008. In the past years, representatives of OEO have played active roles in various UN and Council of Europe events dealing with the role of women during and after armed conflict.	Increase, in accordance with financial resources, the number of projects on empowering and educating girls in third countries, which will combine development and security aspects through the promotion of the protection of human rights. Further active and continued participation in seminars and conferences on this topic.	End of 2012
		MFA – In 2009, 4 projects on empowerment and education of women and girls were supported by the Government under a public tender; they were co-funded by MFA, Ministry of Health (MH) and the Government Office for Local Self-Government (GOLR). - In 2010 and 2011, 5 projects on empowering women are envisaged by the Government to be co-funded by MFA, Ministry of Public Administration (MPA), MH and GOLR under a public tender for non-governmental organisations. MD – In the previous and current year, a representative of the MD took part on behalf of Slovenia in the		

^(c) Coordinator

Enhance training of public servants, officials in the judiciary, police and armed force at the national level on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, international humanitarian law and international human-rights law, in particular women's rights and gender equality.	All competent ministries	preparation of an action plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the implementation of UNSCR 1325. MFA Diplomats posted abroad are acquainted with the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and international human-rights law as part of individual preparations at the Human Rights Department. MD 2008–2009 and 2010–2011 action plans for the implementation of the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2005–2013 and the Directive on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 require that all military training and education programmes at all levels be supplemented with content of Resolutions 1325 and 1820, including rights concerning sexual violence and trafficking in human beings and prohibition of any discrimination in accordance with the Act Implementing the Principle of Equal Treatment. The Directive also stipulates that the content of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 is included in the training for all contingents	Systematic training of public servants, judicial, police and military staff at the national level on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, international humanitarian law and international human-rights law, in particular women's rights and gender equality. Amend and supplement general training programmes, curricula and programmes for the preparation to participate in international operations and missions related to UNSCR 1325 and 1820.	End of 2014
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		deployed to international operations and missions. MFA, Ministry of Justice (MJ) Currently, the training does not include content on the aforementioned topics. The listed contents are discussed at pre-secondment trainings of candidates for work in international operations and missions (IOM) carried out by the Police.		
Provide training for intervention, mediation and work with disadvantaged social groups.	All competent ministries	MD Special attention is devoted to training for mediation and work with disadvantaged social groups in accordance with the Act Implementing the Principle of Equal Treatment, international human-rights law, the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for the period 2005–2013 and the Directive on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security.	Ensure that members of the Slovenian Armed Forces (SAF) and civil experts are professionally trained and competent to perform such tasks.	End of 2012
Promote the creation of conditions for sustainable peacebuilding, including activities in the field of demining and rehabilitation of mine victims.	Office of the President of the Republic (OPR) MFA MD MI	On the initiative of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Dr Danilo Türk, the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF) started a rehabilitation project for children –	Continue current activities.	End of 2012

	MH	mine victims from Gaza – in cooperation with the University Rehabilitation Institute of the Republic of Slovenia. To date, there have been 42 children included in the project, including 12 girls. A fourth group of children is currently envisaged to undergo rehabilitation. Through the ITF, more than 106 million m² of mine-contaminated land has been cleared in Southeast Europe and 2.5 million m² in the South Caucasus. In accordance with donors' wishes, with the support of Slovenia, the ITF has extended its operations to Jordan, Gaza, Egypt, Colombia and Central Asia. The Government supports ITF operations with regular annual donations made through the Ministry of Defence (EUR 379,700 in 2009 and 2010). Regular annual donations will be made through the MFA in the future.		
Promote cooperation with national and international research institutions in their activities and projects that address gender perspective in conflict prevention and	All competent ministries Slovenian Research Agency	MFA In 2009, a study entitled <i>Enhancing the EU Response to Women in Armed Conflict</i> was financed.	Increased cooperation with national and international research institutions in their activities and projects that address gender perspective in conflict prevention and resolution and peacekeeping and	End of 2014

resolution and peacekeeping and peace-building.			peace-building.	
Secondment of one or more Slovenian experts in women's rights to UN, NATO, EU and/or OSCE international operations or missions, within the scope of the budget.	MFA ^(c) All competent ministries	The Government has not yet seconded a Slovenian expert in women's rights to any UN, NATO, EU and/or OSCE international operation or mission.	At least one Slovenian expert in women's rights in a UN, NATO, EU and/or OSCE international operation or mission, within the scope of the budget.	End of 2012

2. Increased participation of women in international peace operations and missions and peace-building				
ACTIVITY	RESPONSABILITY	STATUS	OBJECTIVE	FIRST REPORTING
Efforts to increase the number of women in international operations and missions (IOM) within the work of the UN, NATO, EU and OSCE.	MFA ^(c) All competent ministries	MFA New task.	Increase the involvement of women in international operations and missions within the UN, NATO, EU and OSCE.	End of 2012
Encouraging Slovenian women to participate in IOM.	MFA MD MI MJ MPA	- In 2009, female members of the SAF that were involved in international operations and missions accounted for 9.2% of all deployed to IOM. Women civil functional specialists are few. - To 2009, 2% of the members of the police deployed to IOM were female. There are only a few women among civil experts.	Maintain the existing status and increase the number of female members of the SAF and women civil functional specialists in IOM; Increase the share of female police members deployed to IOM; Increase the number of women among civil experts in the process of crisis management; Encourage female members of the police to take on more responsible managerial and executive posts in IOM; Encourage women to take on more responsible managerial, command and staff duties.	End of 2012
Increasing efficient political decision-making, policy development and encouraging political and public dialogue at national level regarding the increased participation of	MFA OEO MD MI	In January 2010, the MFA published a study on equal opportunities in Slovenian diplomacy, providing a basis for the identification and adoption of measures for more efficient implementation of the	Increase cooperation and involvement of women as decision-makers at the national level.	End of 2012

^(c) Coordinator

women as decision-makers.		principle of equality. The 2010 Slovenian diplomacy consultation programme included a workshop on equal opportunities, carried out by the OEO.		
Increasing efficient political decision-making, policy development and encouraging political and public dialogue at national level regarding the increased participation of women as decision-makers in international operations and missions.	MFA OEO MD MI	In November 2009, the Government adopted the Strategy of Participation of the Republic of Slovenia in International Operations and Missions. MD During the Slovenian Presidency of the EU, the Ministry of Defence took part in the organisation of an international conference on the topic of peace, security and peacekeeping in SE Europe regarding implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325, organised by the CEE Network for Gender Issues, making contributions in the form of active participation of a woman coordinator for equal opportunities in one of the panels, by providing financial support and a translation of UNSC Resolution 1325 into the Slovene language. The MD, together with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Ljubljana	Increase participation and involvement of women as decision-makers in international operations and missions; Regular and continuous cooperation with other institutions and non-governmental organisations in the implementation, organisation and cooperation on projects for the promotion of political and public dialogue and public awareness-raising on the importance and necessity of the involvement of women as decision-makers.	End of 2012

		and the Faculty of Social Sciences, organised a seminar entitled <i>Seminar on Peacebuilding, Interreligious Dialogue and Gender Equality</i> in Ljubljana, 15 May 2009.			
Encouraging women to take on more responsible positions and duties and assuring the increased number of women in decision-making processes.	MFA MD MI	MD In accordance with the Directive for the implementation of UNSC Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security, the Ministry of Defence encourages women to take on more responsible command and staff duties in the SAF and assures the increased role of female members of the SAF in decision-making processes. In international operations and missions, female members of the SAF have taken on important command duties.	Increase the number of women taking on the most responsible command and staff duties in the SAF and in decision-making processes within the MD; Increase the number of women representatives holding responsible and command positions and in IOM decision-making processes; Encourage female members of the police to take on more responsible and leading posts.	End of 2012	
Efforts for introducing the quota for civil experts in various expert fields.	MFA ^(c) All competent ministries	New task.	Establish quotas for civil experts in various expert fields.	End of 2012	
Project cooperation with non-governmental organisations in projects focused on women's empowerment.	MFA ^(c) All competent ministries	Within a public tender for non-governmental organisations, four projects aimed at women's empowerment were supported in 2009, while five will be supported in	Strengthen, within the scope of the budget, project cooperation with non-governmental organisations.	End of 2014	

^(c) Coordinator

		2010 and 2011.		
Concern for a more gender-balanced structure of staff in diplomatic missions.	MFA	Diplomatic missions of Slovenia abroad (as of 6 September 2010) include 253 members of staff, of which 112 are women (44.3%). There are 32 heads of diplomatic missions, of which 6 are women ambassadors (18.8%). In July 2010, the MFA published a report of the equal opportunities working group that identified the issues and proposed measures.	Further assure a gender-balanced structure of staff members of diplomatic missions of Slovenia abroad and strive for increasing the number of women as heads of diplomatic missions of Slovenia abroad.	End of 2014
Seconding of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia to election observation missions (EU, OSCE, and ENEMO – European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations).	MFA All competent ministries	In 2009, 25 Slovenian citizens, of which 12 were women (48%), were seconded by Slovenia to election observation missions.	Further assure the participation of female citizens of the Republic of Slovenia in election observation missions.	End of 2012
Encouraging female citizens of the Republic of Slovenia to stand for positions in bodies and authorities of international organisations (UN, NATO; EU; OSCE).	MFA MD OEO MI	Since 2007, a Slovenian expert has been a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).	Increase, within the scope of the budget, the number of female citizens of the Republic of Slovenia nominated as candidates for positions in bodies of international organisations.	End of 2014

3. Prevention of sexual violence against women and girls and their protection during and after armed conflicts				
ACTIVITY	RESPONSABILITY	STATUS	OBJECTIVE	FIRST REPORTING
Systematic calling attention	MFA ^(c)	Slovenia monitors and actively takes	Systematically and consistently raise	End of 2012

^(c) Coordinator

within international organisations to violence against women and girls, in particular sexual violence.	All competent ministries	part in activities related to the protection and promotion of women's rights in the framework of the UN General Assembly, the UN Human Rights Council, the UN Commission on the Status of Women, and the Council of Europe and other regional international organisations.	the issue of violence against women through Slovenia's work in the UN Security Council, the UN General Assembly, the UN Human Rights Council, the UN Commission on the Status of Women, NATO, the Council of Europe and OSCE and other relevant international organisations.	
Cooperation with relevant UN special procedure mandate-holders and relevant special representatives of the UN Secretary-General.	MFA ^(c) All competent ministries	Within the UN, Slovenia is engaged in: -The Group of Friends of Children and Armed Conflict (which also aims at cooperation with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict); -The Group of Friends to support the mandate of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children; -The core group of countries for the establishment of the new UN mechanism on elimination of discrimination against women in law and in practice; -The group of countries for the promotion of gender equality and women's rights;	Continue cooperation in the mentioned groups with the aim of strengthening the influence of these bodies; Within the scope of the budget , second at least one expert to the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict.	End of 2012

			-The core group of countries for drafting a new Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. To date, no citizen of the Republic of Slovenia has been posted an office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General.		
Voluntary financial contributions for the functioning of international funds in the field of gender equality and protection of women's rights.	MFA All competent ministries	In 2009, Slovenia allocated EUR 19,500 for the functioning of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), EUR 11,500 for the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTFEVAW), and EUR 107,000 for UNICEF. In 2008, Slovenia also allocated funds for the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW) in the amount of USD 10,000.	In 2009, Slovenia allocated EUR 15,000 for the Trust Fund for Victims.	Increase, within the scope of the budget, financial contributions for the functioning of international funds in the field of gender equality and protection of women's rights.	End of 2012
Providing support to the Trust Fund for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.	MFA			Provide continuous support to the International Criminal Court's Trust Fund for Victims.	End of 2012
Efforts to combat impunity, in particular for criminal offences of sexual violence.	MFA MJ		At the initiative of the Slovenian Presidency, the EU Council conclusions on Sudan were adopted	Promote the application of protection procedures for women victims and witnesses before the	End of 2012

		in June 2008. Integrating calls to end impunity into various statements within the UN, in particular the UN Human Rights Council. A MFA representative is a rapporteur of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.	International Criminal Court, and the commitments of states to address sexual violence and to make further efforts in combating impunity for these offences.	
Support drafting an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child that will establish a communication procedure under this Convention.	MFA All relevant ministries	Slovenia participates in a core group for drafting a new Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.	Adoption of a new Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.	End of 2012
Efforts to adopt or to amend Codes of Conduct for Personnel Deployed in International Operations and Missions, which will include content regarding the prevention of sexual violence against girls and women and their protection during and after armed conflicts.	MFA MD MI other ministries	MFA New task. MI UN codes of conduct (<i>Ten Rules: Code Of Personal Conduct For Blue Helmets</i>) are used by the Police to train its candidates for deployment to the IOM and other international and regional organisations carrying out international operations and missions. MD The protection of fundamental	Adopt a Code of Conduct for diplomats posted in diplomatic missions abroad; Amend the Code of Police Ethics to comply with provisions relating to Resolutions 1325 and 1820.	End of 2012

		human rights and respect for human dignity are addressed by the Code on Military Ethics of the Slovenian Army.			
Posting, within the scope of the budget, at least one expert in the office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Secretariat of the International Criminal Court or any other appropriate international or regional organisation dedicated to combating sexual violence against women and girls.	MFA MD MJ other ministries	New task.		Second, within the scope of the budget, at least one expert to the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Secretariat of the International Criminal Court or any other appropriate international or regional organisation dedicated to combating sexual violence against women and girls.	End of 2012
Promotion and implementation of the second phase of the World Programme on Human Rights Education, which focuses on education of public servants and officials in the judiciary, police and army.	MFA MD MI MJ other competent ministries and offices	Slovenia's activities in the UN Platform for Human Rights Education to successfully complete the second phase of the World Programme of Education for Human Rights (2010–2014). As part of a public tender for non-governmental organisations, which was co-financed by the MFA, the MPA and the GOLR, a project on Diversity Management in Employment (training in Croatia and Serbia) was endorsed for 2011 and 2012.		Implement educational programmes for civil servants, law-enforcement officials, and police and military personnel in third countries.	End of 2014
Preparation of appropriate	MFA	MFA		Assure education on issues of sexual	End of 2012

educational contents for basic training of public servants, diplomats and law-enforcement officials who are deployed in international operations and missions or in diplomatic missions of the Republic of Slovenia.		The stated contents have been included in individual preparations at the Human Rights Department. MD In accordance with international human-rights law, the Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Act, the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for the period 2005–2013, the Decree on measures to protect human dignity in state administration and the Directive for the implementation of UNSC Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security, these topics have been partly included in the general training programmes and curricula for staff education as well as for other educational purposes in the SAF. This content has already been included in training and preparation programmes for international operations and missions.	violence, gender-related violence and human trafficking and on sanctions in case of violations, as part of preparations before deployment in international operations and missions or diplomatic missions abroad; Participation of public servants, members of the army and police, and law-enforcement officials in international training and seminars on human rights, equal opportunities, protection of human dignity and both Resolutions; Train a specific number of employees of the Ministry of Defence and members of the SAF to become experts in the field of gender equality, with a view to providing equal opportunities, protecting human dignity and with regard to the content of the two resolutions.	
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ANNEX II

Actions and activities of Slovenia to date

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Gender equality and the promotion of a more appropriate role of women is a key priority of Slovenia's foreign policy on human rights. Slovenia monitors and takes an active part in activities related to the protection and promotion of women's rights within the UN General Assembly, the UN Human Rights Council, and the UN Commission on the Status of Women.
- Gender equality and empowerment of women is a cross-cutting theme of Slovenia's development cooperation.
- Slovenia has taken an active part in the initiative for the creation of a mechanism on gender equality in national legislation from the very beginning and in 2006 and 2007 also led it, along with Rwanda. Since 2008, Slovenia has been engaged in a core group of countries to create the above-mentioned mechanism within the UN Human Rights Council.
- In May 2010, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Royal Norwegian Embassy organised an International Conference on Equality of Women and Men in National Legislation.
- In 2007, Slovenia proposed the initiative to include the discussion on gender-perspective in the work of the UN Human Rights Council.
- Slovenia co-sponsored UN Security Council resolutions 1820 (June 2008), 1888 (September 2009) and 1889 (October 2009) on women, peace and security, and 1882 (August 2009) on children in armed conflict.
- Since 2007, a Slovenian expert has been a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
- Within the EU, Slovenia is committed to the protection and promotion of women's rights and the integration of gender-perspective within the activities and documents of the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU in the fields of security policy, human rights and development cooperation.
- During the Slovenian EU Presidency, Slovenia paid particular attention to the situation of women in armed conflict, with actions including:

- issuing a publication *Mainstreaming Human Rights and Gender into European Security and Defence Policy*, within the work of the Trio Presidency of the EU Council, together with Germany and Portugal;
 - launching a study entitled *Enhancing the EU Response to Women and Armed Conflict* with particular reference to Development Policy;
 - adopting a statement by the Presidency, on the basis of recommendations of study and discussions of development cooperation ministers, at the EU General Affairs and External Relations Council in May 2008. The statement highlights the importance of an effective response by the EU to the issues of women in armed conflict in light of the empowerment of women in conflict prevention and resolution, as well as peacebuilding;
 - organising a conference entitled *Increasing the Impact on the Ground – EU and NGO Cooperation in the Thematic Area of Children Affected by Armed Conflict*, in cooperation with the Centre for European Perspective, the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office and the European Commission.
- The Government makes contributions, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to support the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTFEVAW), the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW), the International Criminal Court Victims Trust Fund and UNICEF. The latter is also supported through contributions from the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs.
 - Slovenia takes an active part in international discussions on gender equality, including the preparation of the EU Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Development, the debate on reform of the UN's operational activities at which the decision was made to establish a new composite United Nations entity "UN Women", as well as in discussions on the final document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals.
 - Slovenia is also committed to empowering women within the work of the membership in executive boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (women and climatic changes) in 2010 and UNICEF (education of girls, violence against children, children and armed conflict) in the 2009–2011 period;

- In October 2009, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dragoljuba Benčina became the MDG3 Torch-bearer within the framework of the Danish campaign *MDG3 Global Call to Action*.
- Within a public tender for non-governmental organisations, co-financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Public Administration and the Government Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy, the following projects on women's empowerment were endorsed **in 2009**:
 - cotton processing in the hands of women in West Africa;
 - development of the Nyamirambo Women's Centre (NWC) in Kigali and development cooperation of Slovenian and Rwandan NGOs;
 - ensuring capacity to reduce the mortality rate of women and children at childbirth and improve the health of children in Ruzo, Burundi (humanitarian-assistance project in sub-Saharan Africa);
 - providing long-term quantity and quality supply of adequate nutrition for mothers and children in the Anjozorobe region in Madagascar (humanitarian-assistance projects in sub-Saharan Africa).
- Within a public tender for non-governmental organisations, which was co-financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Public Administration and the Government Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy, the following projects on women's empowerment were endorsed **in 2010 and 2011**:
 - Managing Diversity in the Workplace (training in Croatia and Serbia);
 - ensuring sustainable capacity to reduce mortality and improve health of children and women in Ruzo, Burundi;
 - medical care in the town of Kapaizi, Kasungu area, in Malawi; assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS, in particular women and orphans;
 - establishment of an organisation for women's empowerment, the Sunny Skies Women's Project, in Uganda;
 - I KNOW – I CAN: Empowerment of Girls and Women in Sierra Leone.
- With a view to enhancing the participation of Slovenia in international operations and missions, the Government adopted, on 12 November 2009, the Strategy of Participation of the Republic of Slovenia in International Operations and Missions,

which defines a framework for decision-making on participation and identifies a general range of capacities for its implementation. Preparation of a national action plan for enhancing women's role in matters of peace and security, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820, is stipulated in Article 31 of the Strategy.

Ministry of Defence

- The implementation of Resolutions 1325 and 1820 was first recorded in national documents in the framework of activities defined in periodic plans for the implementation of the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for the period 2005–2013, relating to the implementation of both resolutions in the Ministry of Defence. Envisaged measures and activities are carried out within regular work of the Slovenian Armed Forces and the ministry.
- During the Slovenian EU Presidency, the Ministry of Defence took part in the organisation of an international conference on the topic of peace, security and peacekeeping in South-Eastern Europe regarding the implementation of Resolution 1325, organised by the CEE Network for Gender Issues, through active participation of a female coordinator for equal opportunities in one of the panels and by providing financial support as well as the translation of Resolution 1325 into the Slovene language.
- At the Strasbourg-Kehl Summit of NATO in April 2009, NATO members made a commitment to implement UN Resolution 1325 in NATO.
- At the request of the Government Office for Equal Opportunities, a representative of the Ministry of Defence took part, on behalf of Slovenia, in the preparation of the action plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina this year and the previous year.
- The Ministry of Defence, together with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Slovenia and the Faculty of Social Sciences, organised a seminar entitled *Seminar on Peacebuilding, Interreligious Dialogue and Gender Equality*, Ljubljana, 15 May 2009.
- Minister of Defence Ljubica Jelušič received a group of Albanian women on a study mission to Slovenia entitled *Albania: Study Mission to Slovenia for Participants of Women's Advocacy and Election Campaigns Program*, Ljubljana, 15 May 2009.

- Representatives of the Ministry of Defence took part in the seminar *Strengthening ESDP missions and operations through training on UNSCR 1325 and 1820*, Brussels, 9 June 2009.
- In January 2010, Slovenia sent a message to the Secretary General of NATO notifying him of Slovenia's joining the nine allies that addressed him a letter advocating a powerful political message concerning NATO's commitment to the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 and proposing specific measures.
- Minister of Defence Ljubica Jelusič took part in the European Women in Power Summit, held in Cadiz, 3 February 2010.
- At their formal meeting on 10–11 June 2010 in Brussels, NATO defence ministers confirmed a report on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 in operations and missions led by NATO.
- Speech by Minister of Defence Ljubica Jelusič at Bled Strategic Forum on 30 August 2010.
- Participation of Ministry of Defence representatives in a regional conference *Women and the Security Sector, UN Security Council Resolution 1325* in Belgrade, 13–15 October 2010.

Slovenian Armed Forces (SAF)

- Since 2008, major activities aimed at ensuring equal opportunities for women and men in the Slovenian Armed Forces have been underway:
 - raising awareness of the domestic public on equal opportunities for both genders and about the necessity of accepting differences of women and men and proper evaluation of these differences, and different social roles;
 - introducing equal opportunities into general and military education programmes of the ministry; acquisition of knowledge in this field is also being made available outside the ministry;
 - an amendment to the Defence Act and a new Service in the Slovenian Armed Forces Act, which specify in more detail how to ensure equal opportunities in practice;
 - adoption of the Code on Military Ethics of the Slovenian Army and a Standard Operating Procedure laying down procedures and measures aimed at the protection

of dignity in the Slovenian Armed Forces, as well as appropriate amendments to the Rules on Service in the Slovenian Armed Forces;

- nominating representatives of the SAF to the NATO Committee for Equal Opportunities, and
 - nominating advisers for assistance and information in accordance with the Decree on measures to protect the dignity of employees of state administration authorities in the Ministry of Defence and the Slovenian Armed Forces.
- The implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 relating to women in armed conflict or to the essential role of women in preventing conflicts and their role in peacebuilding and sustainable development was included by the SAF in the 2008–2009 Periodic Plans for the implementation of the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2005–2013.
 - In December 2009, the Directive on implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security was issued by the Chief of General Staff of the SAF. The Directive provides for the implementation of procedures and measures in the SAF with a view to creating equal opportunities in decision-making, planning, preparations and implementation of crisis-management tasks and peacekeeping operations and missions. The Directive sets out tasks and measures introducing adequate procedures to ensure that women become represented at all decision-making levels, according to their abilities and experience. It stipulates amendments to all military education programmes and training covering gender equality, the two resolutions, including sexual violence and human trafficking and integration of this content into programmes for the preparation of staff deployed to international operations and missions. These measures are aimed at ensuring a greater role for women members of the SAF in decision-making processes, gender-balanced representation in peacebuilding and stabilisation processes, and in preventing and resolving conflicts, and participation in processes of maintaining peace and security. The increased number of female SAF members participating in the crisis-management process and international operations and missions will ensure higher quality mediation, in particular in contacts with socially disadvantaged groups in the crisis-affected areas.
 - Approximately 15.5% of the employees of the Slovenian Armed Forces are women.

- In 2009, women accounted for 9.2% of all members of the SAF deployed in international operations and missions. In international operations and missions, female members of the SAF have taken on important command duties.

Ministry of the Interior

- Representatives of the Ministry of the Interior took part in the international conference *Women in Security System – Resolution 1325 UNSC*, held between 3 and 6 October 2008 in Montenegro (Podgorica). The conference was organised by the Government of Montenegro and supported by OSCE and UNDP. The hosts and representatives from Slovenia, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Albania, and from the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces and non-governmental organisations took part in the conference. A representative of the Slovenian Police presented information on the representation of women in various services and international civil and military missions, legislative activities and activities relating to domestic violence.
- On 24 November 2008, the General Police Directorate organised at its headquarters the first working consultation on gender equality, with 24 members of staff from the Police (i.e. from police directorates and the General Police Directorate) and the Ministry of the Interior taking part. At the consultation, two coordinators for equal opportunities of women and men at the Ministry of the Interior and the Police (who were also initiators of the consultation) presented their work.
- On 20 June 2008, a commitment to Standard Operating Procedures for the prevention of gender-based violence and sexual violence was signed by the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, UNCHR Regional Representation Budapest, the Society *Ključ*, the Society for Non-Violent Communication, the Jesuit Refugee Service, the Legal Information Centre for NGOs, and Slovenian Philanthropy. These procedures aim to enable joint action by all actors for the prevention of sexual violence and gender-based violence and measures in such cases. An inter-ministerial working group has been established to this end.
- The Ministry of the Interior has also been involved in fighting human trafficking since 2003. The ministry plays an active role in the preparation of legislation, in prevention and prosecution of criminal offences, in assistance and protection of victims of human

trafficking, in support activities and in other fields relating to human trafficking. The PATS project (Project against Human Trafficking and Sex- and Gender-based Violence) has been active since 2004. The basic idea of the project was introduced by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) from the Ljubljana office. The PATS project is a preventive project, primarily aimed at raising awareness in particular among risk groups of applicants for international protection. The target population are all newly arrived applicants for international protection in Slovenia, mainly unaccompanied minors and single women.

- The Ministry of the Interior (as of September 2010) employs 2,674 women, 27% of all employees. Of this, the Police employ 2,160 women, representing 22% of all the Police employees. (1,149 are female police officers and 1,011 female professional technical employees).
- Up to 2009, women accounted for 2% of all members of the Slovenian Police who were deployed to international operations and missions. Up to October 2010, the Slovenian Police had trained 195 officers as candidates for international operations and missions. The percentage of female police officers is 3.6%.

Office for Equal Opportunities

- The Office for Equal Opportunities was involved in the preparation of the report and indicators for monitoring the implementation by Member States and EU institutions of the Beijing Platform for Action (on women in armed conflict) and in the preparation of the draft Conclusions of the Council of the European Union on indicators concerning women in armed conflict, adopted in December 2008.
- A representative of the Office for Equal Opportunities participated as a panellist at the side event on the role of women in conflict prevention and resolution, co-organized by Slovenia and the Council of Europe in New York on the margins of the 48th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.
- In 2003, two representatives of the Office for Equal Opportunities participated in the ministerial conference of the Council of Europe on democratisation, conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and perspectives and roles of women in these processes, which was hosted by Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
- In 2001, a representative of the Office for Equal Opportunities chaired the international seminar of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on the role of women in

the conflict prevention and resolution, in the reconstruction of post-conflict societies, and in the participation of women in decision-making processes.