The objectives of the resolution are adopted for the first time by the United Nations Security Council in October 2000 for the first time advocated by various peace activists and international women's groups and organizations. For the first time clearly articulated the political significance of women and gender for the sustainability of international peace and security. The fact that during armed conflict the majority of women and girls are intolerably affected by abuses committed against them by virtue of their gender, ranging from rape, sexual violence, sexual slavery, forced pregnancies, murder, terrorism, torture and abduction. The objectives of the resolution are to protect women's rights during armed conflicts, prevent impunity for gender-based crimes, mainstream gender aspects in peacekeeping operations and increase women's participation in the various phases before, during and after armed conflicts. In 2000 adopted by the United Nations Security Council in October 2000.
Much as both men and women suffer during armed conflict, the impact of conflict is felt differently and, therefore, diverse interventions are required to address the various needs of men and women in conflict-affected areas. Women often experience more horrific atrocities and injustices in comparison to their male counterparts. While men and women both may be victims of physical, sexual and psychological violence, including murder, inhuman and degrading treatment, abductions and forced conscription into armed activity, women are also subject to sexual exploitation, rape, forced marriage, forced pregnancy and forced abortion. Women become targets of gender-based violence, with sexual violence used as a weapon of war, as a means of subjugation and humiliation, as a form of torture to inflict injury, to extract information and to destroy communities.

Under UNSCR 1325, the Security Council reinforces the fact that in all armed conflicts women should not just be looked at as helpless victims of war and violence, but they should be fully recognized as having active and critical roles as combatants, peacebuilders, politicians, community leaders and activists and should be actively involved in all peace resolution and reconstruction processes. By excluding women from peacebuilding processes their ability to recover from conflict and effectively participate in the rebuilding of their communities and countries is greatly undermined and the sustainability of peace and security in countries emerging out of conflict is severely compromised.

What is the South Sudan National Action Plan 1325?

This National Action Plan provides a framework that will guide decisions on defense, diplomatic, humanitarian and development activities to ensure that the provisions of the United Nations resolutions on women, peace and security are incorporated into the Government’s work, with the aim of reducing the impact of conflict on women and girls and increasing women’s representation and participation in decision-making.

**PREVENTION**
Reduction in conflict and all forms of structural and physical violence against women, particularly sexual and gender-based violence

**PARTICIPATION**
Inclusion of women and women’s interests in decision-making processes related to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

**PROTECTION**
Women’s safety, physical and mental health and economic security are assured and their human rights respected

**RELIEF AND RECOVERY**
Women’s specific needs are met in conflict and post-conflict situations

Government institutions and implementing partners will develop detailed activity plans related to their areas of operation and budget for these activities, as well as take full financial responsibility for their implementation.
What are the Strategic Goals of the National Action Plan?

STRATEGIC GOAL 1
Increase women’s effective participation in leadership and peacebuilding and strengthen gender perspectives in the South Sudan’s statebuilding and reconstruction processes

Objective 1.1
Examine and review all laws, policies and programmes within South Sudan’s socio-economic and political context in order to promote and guarantee equal opportunities and active and meaningful participation of women in politics and in positions of power and decision-making positions, taking into consideration the special needs and interest of women with disabilities.

Objective 1.2
Promote equal access and opportunities for women and girls, including those with disabilities, to education, vocational and technical training, in-service training and skills development by deliberately addressing the roots of their poverty to enable them to engage in meaningful employment, attain economic empowerment and effectively participate in the country’s rebuilding and democratic processes of women with disabilities.

Objective 1.3
Improve women’s economic status by ensuring that reconstruction programmes undertaken in South Sudan equitable benefit women and girls, including those with disabilities; women are invited to participate and contribute to government and donor discussions and decisions taken on recovery and reconstruction projects to be financed and implemented.

Objective 1.4
Actively involve women in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programme and ensure that all those involved in planning for DDR consider the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and the WAAF/G, and take into account the needs of their dependents.

Objective 2.1
Develop and strengthen security policy frameworks and security sector institutions (SSIs) to promote their understanding of gender, human rights and women’s rights and to conform to UNSCR 1325.

Objective 2.3
Enhance and reinforce respect for human rights and non-tolerance of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence during conflict and in post-conflict situations.
STRATEGIC GOAL 2

Support security sector reforms and professionalize security sector institutions to enable them to implement UNSCR 1325

Objective 2.2
Increase the representation and participation of women at all decision-making levels in SSIs; improve the terms and conditions of service for women in SSIs to enable increased employment rates and advancement of women in the security sector, particularly in operational forces.

Objective 3.1
Develop and promote legal, policy and programme approaches that respond effectively to the differential experiences of women and girls during conflict situations, in peace operations and in times of peacebuilding in order to protect the people of South Sudan from further abuses; address the structural, systemic conditions that give rise to human rights violations.

Objective 3.2
Adopt a gendered approach to transitional justice; increase access to justice for women and girls affected by all forms of violence in armed conflict and in post-conflict settings in South Sudan; bring the perpetrators to justice by establishing effective mechanisms to end impunity at state and national levels.

Objective 3.3
Increase access to appropriate health care services for women and psychosocial support to survivors of SGBV; increase consciousness, collaboration, linkages and joint initiatives among actors responding to SGBV health and socio-economic-related issues.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

Strengthen efforts to prevent and protect women and girls against any form of violence; promote the prosecution of perpetrators and increase support to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in all parts of South Sudan.

Objective 2.3
Enhance and reinforce respect for human rights and non-tolerance of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence during conflict and in post-conflict situations.

Objective 3.1
Develop and promote legal, policy and programme approaches that respond effectively to the differential experiences of women and girls during conflict situations, in peace operations and in times of peacebuilding in order to protect the people of South Sudan from further abuses; address the structural, systemic conditions that give rise to human rights violations.

Objective 3.2
Adopt a gendered approach to transitional justice; increase access to justice for women and girls affected by all forms of violence in armed conflict and in post-conflict settings in South Sudan; bring the perpetrators to justice by establishing effective mechanisms to end impunity at state and national levels.

Objective 3.3
Increase access to appropriate health care services for women and psychosocial support to survivors of SGBV; increase consciousness, collaboration, linkages and joint initiatives among actors responding to SGBV health and socio-economic-related issues.
Implementation of the National Action Plan for UNSCR 1325 will be monitored by an Inter-Ministerial Committee comprised of FIVE Government ministries:

1. Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare [CHAIR]
3. Ministry of Justice [CO-CHAIR]
4. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
5. Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning

The Inter-Ministerial Committee will meet twice a year (every six months) to evaluate the progress of National Action Plan implementation and receive the mid-year reports from the National Steering Committee. The Inter-Ministerial Committee will also receive and approve the National Annual Report on UNSCR 1325 and submit it to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who will then present it to the Council of Ministers to have it tabled for debate in Parliament. Every two years the Government will compile a report on UNSCR 1325 and submit it to the United Nations Secretary General as required under the resolution. A mid-term evaluation of implementation will be conducted in 2016 after the compilation of the report to the United Nations Secretary General and a final review will be prepared in the fourth year (2018) to pave the way for the development of a revised National Action Plan.

The National Steering Committee

The National Steering Committee will continue working to ensure coordinated implementation, monitoring and reporting on UNSCR 1325 by all implementing partners. The State Steering Committees will liaise with the National Steering Committee to ensure that the National Action Plan is implemented within their respective states, and that it is being applied countrywide.

The National Steering Committee and the State Steering Committees will meet on a quarterly basis to receive reports from the National Action Plan implementing institution and organizations, evaluate progress on implementation and approve the reports for the Inter-Ministerial Committee to subsequently compile the National Annual Report on UNSCR 1325.
### Mandate of the ministries on the Inter-Ministerial Committee

#### Institutions and their Roles and Responsibilities

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<td>Advise the President, Council of Ministers and the South Sudan National Legislative Assembly on all diplomatic issues related to implementation of the SSNAP on UNSCR 1325.</td>
<td>Defend the democratic values, unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of South Sudan and its people.</td>
<td>Coordinate and monitor implementation of the SSNAP by Government institutions and stakeholders (donors, United Nations agencies, development partners, international non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations).</td>
<td>Improve the capacity, efficiency, integrity and responsiveness of the judiciary.</td>
<td>Ensure that funds are allocated for implementation of the National Action Plan.</td>
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<td>Follow up on agreements made between the Government and foreign governments and United Nations agencies.</td>
<td>Work in cooperation with other national institutions in the security and defense sectors.</td>
<td>Ensure gender mainstreaming in public and private sectors.</td>
<td>Provide support to strengthen the competence and capacity building of the state and national legal systems to deal with cases of violence, in particular SGBV.</td>
<td>Monitor the effective use of the money allocated to the implementing institutions.</td>
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<td>Develop and coordinate policies and programmes for international support in the field of humanitarian relief and rehabilitation.</td>
<td>Ensure that South Sudan has a professional army with appropriate military training, taking into account issues of human rights, HIV/AIDS, gender and SGBV protection measures.</td>
<td>Deliberately recruit and appropriately deploy women as military and civilian personnel to conform to the constitutional requirement of having at least 25 percent female representation in all government institutions.</td>
<td>Institute transparent criteria for appointment of judges stipulating judicial capacity and legitimacy and ensure that women are appointed to the bench.</td>
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<td>Establish and maintain a system for regular liaison meetings with and reporting to United Nations agencies, foreign government agencies and international non-governmental organizations.</td>
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Members of the National & State Steering Committees

**Government ministries**
- Ministry of Gender, Child, Social Welfare, Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management
- Ministry of Defense
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
- Ministry of National Security
- Ministry of Interior
- Office of the President
- Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Ministry of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development
- Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

**Other government institutions**
- South Sudan Human Rights Commission
- South Sudan DDR Commission
- South Sudan HIV/AIDS Commission
- Peace and Reconciliation Commission
- Gender Committee at the South Sudan National Legislative Assembly

**Other stakeholders**
- Eve Organization for Women Development
- Associations for Women With Disabilities
- Skills for South Sudan
- UNWOMEN
- UNMISS
- UNDP
- South Sudan Gender-based Violence Sub-cluster
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Eastern Africa

**Contact information**

For further information, contact the National Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare or State Ministry of Education, Gender and Social Welfare office, or write to us at mgcsw@mgcsw.ss.org.

To report a crime, contact a South Sudan National Police Service Special Protection Unit for assistance, or dial 777 (in Juba).

**For legal aid assistance, contact:**
- Initiative for Peace Communication Association (IPCA)
  Tel: 0954590380, 0925392219, 0955908780
- Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)
  Tel: 0952333912, 0956281299

**For counselling support and referrals, contact:**
- International Rescue Committee (IRC)
  Tel: 0955009101

The National Action Plan was printed by the Ministry of Gender and UNWOMEN.