The future women peace builders want!

A statement on the Post-2015 Development Agenda by the N-Peace Network, a regional coalition of women peace advocates from Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, the Philippines and Afghanistan.

Conflicts both delay and set back development gains[1]. **Development is therefore not achievable without peace, and peace is not sustainable without development.** The N-Peace network supports calls to bring conflict prevention and peace building commitments into the Post-2015 Development Agenda. We believe a new framework must recognize the special needs and development challenges of conflict affected and fragile states.

Around half of the 1.5 billion people globally affected by conflict and fragility are women and girls, often facing exacerbated vulnerabilities during and following times of conflict. Despite being half of every community, women still remain largely excluded from peace processes and decision-making for building peace.

Members of the N-Peace network believe that a new development framework and commitments to address conflict prevention and peace building must also acknowledge the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls, and promote women's engagement as equal and full agents in peace and security. We therefore urge UN member states, the High-Level Panel, System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda and all other stakeholders engaged in the Post-2015 Development Agenda process to support our following recommendations:

- Global commitments to pursue conflict prevention and peace-building should link with and promote provisions outlined within the Women, Peace & Security agenda as defined by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and further SCRs that support this agenda (1829, 1888 1889, 1960), thereby upholding commitments to:
    - Increase participation of women in decision-making for conflict prevention, resolution and peace-building at all levels;
    - Protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and provide access to justice;
    - Make women's priorities central in recovery efforts.

- Recognizing that gender equality is lower in less peaceful nations, a new development framework should target the special development challenges for women in conflict-affected communities and fragile states.

- Efforts for development via peace building and state-building interventions should target issues of gender equality, while promoting reforms to strengthen human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls. Supporting indicators used to measure progress in development via peace-building and state-building efforts should be gender disaggregated so that existing inequalities and uneven levels of progress can be tackled via such interventions.

- Continued consultations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda should aim for gender equality in representation and ensure the voices of conflict-affected women are included.

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[1] In 2011, World Bank statistics showed that no conflict-affected or fragile state had achieved a single MDG, nor are they expected to do so by 2015. Of the 42 countries at the bottom of the UNDP's Human Development Index, 29 are fragile states.

About the N-Peace Network

The N-Peace (Engage for Peace, Equality, Access, Community and Empowerment) Network is a multi-country initiative **managed by UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Centre (APRC)** with UNDP Offices across Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Nepal, Afghanistan and the Philippines, **in partnership with Search for Common Ground, the Institute for Inclusive Security** and **supported by AusAID**. The network serves as a means for engagement between civil society, government, and other groups on the issues of Women, Peace and Security, and conflict prevention. It works to support women's networks and leadership capacities to build peace and empower their communities. **To learn more visit: www.n-peace.net**

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