



MINISTÈRE
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ÉTRANGÈRES

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FRANCE'S 3RD NATIONAL ACTION PLAN 2021-2025

Implementation of the United Nations Security Council
resolutions on the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda



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INTRODUCTION :

« WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY » AGENDA



A. The international framework that led to the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda

On 31 October 2000, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted unanimously Resolution 1325, “Women, Peace and Security”, which aims to increase the number of women participating in conflict prevention and resolution, and in peacebuilding. Resolution 1325 called on States to take the necessary measures to protect women before, during and after conflicts. It reaffirmed that respect for the rights of women and girls and the participation of women on an equal footing in all decision-making processes and at all levels of responsibility were both objectives and essential means to prevent conflicts, resolve them and foster a culture of peace.

Since Resolution 1325, nine other resolutions have been adopted¹ which highlight, firstly, the importance of the participation of women in crisis resolution, stabilization and reconstruction mechanisms, and secondly, prevention, the fight against impunity and the protection of women from sexual violence as a weapon of war. The ten resolutions together form the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda.

The Security Council contributes in this way, in its areas of expertise, to the ambitious commitments made in support of women's rights in Beijing at the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 and the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Sustainable Development Goal 5: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”; Sustainable Development Goal 16: “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development”). The participation and contribution of women in legal, economic, social, political, security and cultural fields are drivers to fostering peace processes and stability.

The « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda is built on three pillars:

- Prevention of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence by including women in early warning mechanisms and procedures that make it possible to pursue perpetrators of such violence and through awareness-raising on gender equality and the promotion of women's rights;
- Participation of women in peace processes and all decision-making processes related to peace and security, in order to strengthen these peace processes and promote gender equality more generally;

¹ Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), 2467 (2019) and 2493 (2019)

- Protection of women and girls during and after conflicts from all forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

UN Women monitors the implementation of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda, and it prepares the United Nations Secretary-General's annual report on Women, Peace and Security. The States are invited to implement the resolutions adopted by the Security Council as part of national action plans. In January 2021, 92 States adopted at least one national action plan to implement the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda.

Although the year 2020 marked the 20th anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325, as well as the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Conference and five years since the Agenda 2030 was launched, France notes that the objective set collectively by the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda has not yet been reached around the world.

B. The French and European implementation frameworks for the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda

As encouraged by the Security Council resolutions, France adopted an initial National Action Plan to implement the agenda for the 2010-2013 period, followed by a second for the 2015-2018 period.

These plans were based around four main areas:

- the participation of women in the political processes related to peace and security;
- the protection of women and girls from sexual or gender-based violence and the protection of their rights in conflict and post-conflict periods;
- the fight against impunity and prevention through raising awareness of the challenges of fighting violence against women;
- the promotion of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda at regional and international levels, to enhance its implementation, especially through the defence and promotion of women's rights and gender equality.

The National Action Plans to implement the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda are founded on a rights-based approach. They aim to take into account gender challenges systematically for all French external action in peace and security.

France's commitment to implementing the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda is aligned with its “feminist diplomacy”, which concerns all of its external action and is based on [France's International Strategy on Gender Equality \(2018-2022\)](#).

France also promotes these priorities within the institutions of the European Union. It actively participated in drafting the Strategic Approach to Women, Peace and Security, adopted in November 2018, and its operationalization within the action plan adopted on 5 July 2019 for the 2019-2024 period. Lastly, within the European Union, France is highly active in the drafting, adoption and implementation of Gender Action Plan III, adopted in November 2020, and which is the European Union's benchmark framework on gender equality challenges around the world.

REPORT
ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE « WOMEN, PEACE
AND SECURITY »
AGENDA BY FRANCE



A. Evaluation of France's second National Action Plan for the « Women, Peace and Security »

The National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (CNCDH) carried out a mid-term evaluation of the second National Action Plan, specifically pillars 2, 3 and 5². The French High Council for Gender Equality (HCE) published a final evaluation³ of the implementation by France of its second National Action Plan for the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda. In its report published in December 2018, the HCE welcomed the advocacy actions conducted by our country in multilateral forums with a view to promoting the Women, Peace and Security resolutions, which are major drivers to foster gender equality. However, the HCE calls for the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda to be better understood and shared as a driver of deep transformation in the way peacekeeping and the management of conflict and post-conflict situations are approached, in particular when taking into consideration the importance of the inclusion and participation of women in decision-making processes.

The HCE also produced 16 recommendations which aim to:

- boost the visibility of the plan and its ownership by the stakeholders concerned, through greater political backing and systematizing training activities;
- strengthen the operational nature of the National Action Plan and measure its real impact, by defining tangible commitments and results to be achieved;
- strengthen the management and consistency of the monitoring and evaluation framework, in particular by strengthening interministerial coordination and the involvement of civil society;
- further involve the Agence Française de Développement (AFD, French Development Agency) in the implementation of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda, especially in countries in conflict or post-conflict situations and through the Minka Peace and Resilience Fund⁴;
- enhance the appropriate financial and human resources to implement this plan.

² CNCDH, Note sur l'évaluation à mi-parcours du 2nd Plan national d'action de la France relatif à la mise en œuvre des résolutions « Femmes, paix, sécurité » du Conseil de sécurité (2015-2018), 2 mars 2017.

³ Haut Conseil à l'Égalité entre les femmes et les hommes, Rapport final d'évaluation du 2e plan national d'action « Femmes, paix et sécurité » (2015-2018) », Rapport n°2018-10-23- INT-36 published on 10/12/2018.

⁴ Launched in 2017, the Minka Peace and Resilience Fund is the AFD tool dedicated to peacebuilding, under the French "Prevention, Resilience and Sustainable Peace" strategy.

The HCE also referred to and developed part of these recommendations in its report on Feminist Diplomacy, published in November 2020⁵.

The third National Action Plan aims to continue the progress made under the second Plan, including advocacy actions, welcomed by the evaluation bodies for the second plan, and strengthen ownership of the agenda by all of France's partners on the matter, as well as those in charge of its implementation.

B. Summary of actions undertaken since 2018 by France

In international forums

At the UN Security Council, France actively strives to have the agenda included in the resolutions renewing peacekeeping operation mandates, and also during its meetings by inviting women to give their opinions on all topics that are addressed. Furthermore, our country provides support to UN Women projects, strengthening the participation of women in all stages of peace processes in countries such as Mali, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, the Central African Republic and for Syrian women refugees.

In March 2019, France took advantage of its presidency of the UNSC to actively promote the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda. It co-organized a meeting with Germany on the unequal participation of women and men in political processes, placing a focus on the Sahel. In the negotiations for resolutions 2467 on sexual violence in armed conflict and 2493 on the implementation of the agenda, France also actively defended the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda, including against the States who demanded the reference to sexual and reproductive health and rights be removed, despite it being previously agreed on.

Outside the UNSC, France included Women, Peace and Security on the agenda of its G7 presidency in 2019. Specifically, the Dinard Declaration dedicated to this agenda recalls the importance of equal and meaningful participation of women in peace processes and calls for enhanced international mobilization to combat sexual violence, and the stigmatization and social exclusion that survivors and victims suffer from. Through this declaration, the G7 provided political support to the Global Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, launched by Nobel Peace Prize winners Nadia Murad and Denis Mukwege. France has committed to donating €6.2 million to this Fund and actively participates on its Board.

The launch of the annual Simone Veil Prize by the French Republic in 2019 allows France to highlight the commitment of all those who work to support the rights of women and girls around the world. On International Women's Day, 8 March 2021, the Simone Veil Prize by

⁵ High Council for Gender Equality, Moving from a slogan to rally support to true momentum for change Report 2020-09-22 DIPLO-44 published 4 November 2020

the French Republic was awarded to the Afghan politician, Ms. Habiba Sarabi, for her significant contribution to the peace and reconciliation processes in Afghan society.

In its Armed Forces

With a proportion of women exceeding 21%, the French Ministry for the Armed Forces today boasts the fourth-highest percentage of women in State departments of defence around the world, and the highest in Europe. The appeal of the institution and retaining women among its personnel are crucial to the ministry.

To accelerate this dynamic, the gender parity plan launched by the Minister for the Armed Forces, Ms. Florence Parly, on 7 March 2019 includes 22 tangible measures for all of the armed forces, departments and offices in the Ministry.

Since it was launched, the gender parity plan has already helped set up tangible actions and increase the percentage of women service members by 4.7% in two years. In 2021, the number of women service members is 33,203, or 16.1%. Between 2018 and 2020, the percentage of women on overseas operations rose from 8% to 8.6%. The rate of women general officers is currently 9.3%, close to the 10% objective set by the gender equality plan for 2022.

Through financing projects in the field

Support to the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda is also reflected by the implementation of tangible actions:

- supporting victims and survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. As indicated above, as part of the French presidency of the G7 in 2019, France committed to contributing €6.2 million to the Global Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence;
- help to strengthen gender equality and improving living conditions for women in conflict and post-conflict areas:
 - ▶ through humanitarian and stabilization assistance. As an example, France is supporting the construction of an operating theatre and hospital with a mother-and-baby unit in the city of Sinjar, Iraq, which will mainly benefit women in the Yezidi community affected by the atrocities perpetrated by Daesh. France supports the development of innovative tools to protect witnesses and victims of sexual violence in the Central African Republic and access to sexual and reproductive health in Libya. France also supports several programmes for the political and socio-economic empowerment of women (Cameroon, Sudan). In 2020, 60% of projects financed by the Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS) scored 1 or 2 under the DAC gender equality policy marker (DAC-1 or DAC-2) and help

implement the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda, for a total volume of €73 million;

- ▶ through French official development assistance, in particular the Minka Peace and Resilience Fund. Created in 2017, with a budget of €200 million a year and implemented by the Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency - AFD), the Minka Fund is the main financial instrument of the French “Prevention, resilience and sustainable peace” strategy. Between 2017 and 2020, it financed 57 gender-responsive and conflict-sensitive projects, for a total sum of half a billion euros (€508 million), in the four crisis basins (the Sahel, Lake Chad, the Central African Republic and the Middle East). It is one of the first funds to take gender and gender-based violence into consideration, and which helps the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda and the National Action Plan become operational, as 78% of the Minka funding in the 2017-2020 period had a gender-based objective, and 22% had gender as a main objective (OECD DAC2 marker). As an example, in Bangui the AFD financed the project creating a support centre for survivors of sexual violence and gender-based violence (€4.2 million); an empowerment of women project led by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Chad (€5 million), which aims to protect the sexual and reproductive rights and health of women in the Wadi Fira region, an area where more than 300,000 Sudanese refugees live in camps and a theatre of inter-communal clashes.
- ▶ through its security and defence cooperation. The French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs supported the creation of training modules on protecting women who are conflict victims, for four regionally oriented national schools (ENVR). More than 150 officers (military and police forces) followed these training modules, for a total of 29 training days;
- ▶ through the participation of women in peacekeeping operations led by the United Nations. France contributed €300,000 in 2019 to fund French language learning for female military personnel offered by UN Women under the Female Military Officer Course (FMOC).

THIRD NATIONAL
ACTION PLAN
COMMITMENTS



In its third National Action Plan, France has decided to structure its action based on four commitments: **prevention, protection, including in the fight against impunity, participation and promotion** of the agenda.

These commitments will be implemented through concrete, coordinated actions that can be evaluated by all French stakeholders that take part in drafting this National Action Plan: the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for the Armed Forces, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry for National Education, Youth and Sport, the Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation and the Ministry for Gender Equality, Diversity and Equal Opportunities, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA). The Ministry for Solidarity and Health was also consulted to provide its expertise on sexual and reproductive rights and health. The National Consultative Commission on Human Rights, the High Council for Gender Equality and civil society were also consulted for the drafting and will be called on to participate in the implementation of the action plan.

The expertise of French civil society and priority countries of the National Action Plan is essential to fulfil its objectives. This is why the implementation of the commitments in the National Action Plan will be monitored, bringing together a network of focal points, the High Council for Gender Equality, the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights and other civil society actors, at regular meetings. The National Action Plan will also be evaluated mid-term and a report conducted with the help of specific indicators listed in the appendix.

Lastly, France will be attentive to consistency between the National Action Plan and its International Strategy for Gender Equality (2018-2022). It will also ensure its action is aligned with the EU's Women, Peace and Security plan for 2019-2024 and the European Union Gender Action Plan - GAP III).

A. The “four Ps”: the four National Action Plan commitments

Prevention through awareness-raising on the challenges linked to fighting gender-based violence, and on women’s rights and gender equality

OBSERVATION

The latest report by the United Nations Secretary-General on the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda recalls that the action carried out by States for the prevention of conflicts and fostering sustainable peace must focus in priority on the promotion of gender equality and the rights of women by spreading awareness and prevention among both staff and the general public. In this context, it is essential that educational policies for gender equality, comprehensive sexuality education and the fight against bullying and all types of gender-based violence in school environments are developed, especially aimed at passing on and spreading a culture of equality, as well as specific training sessions.

OBJECTIVES

This third National Action Plan will support the implementation of measures adopted in support of greater prevention and awareness-raising among personnel and the general public on matters linked to the fight against gender-based violence, women’s rights and gender equality. In this regard, special attention will be paid to girls’ and boys’ access to education, including education on gender equality, and the protection and promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights. OFPRA training sessions and the setting up of the Thémis unit by the Ministry for the Armed Forces are examples to follow.

To this end, the third National Action Plan sets the following objectives:

- **strengthen and develop the available training specifically on the inclusion of gender and the protection of women against sexual and sexual violence and violent extremism in conflict and post-conflict situations.** Every stakeholder concerned by this plan will be responsible for providing training to all the staff concerned by the implementation of the agenda, especially law enforcement and the judiciary, and in particular the persons in charge of welcoming and guiding survivors of violence in France and abroad;
- **continue to develop teaching tools** for including gender and protection against sexual violence and violent extremism in conflict and post-conflict situations (information sheets, models, regular seminars presenting agenda topics);

- **continue education policies on prevention and fighting gender inequalities and sexist and sexual violence**, which help train future citizens, renew community education and youth initiatives, and develop actions in the fields of informal and non-formal education;
- **strengthen French programmes dedicated to gender challenges in conflict and post-conflict humanitarian contexts**, especially in coordination with civil society in countries where these programmes are applied; increase the specific support that must be provided for women and girls who are survivors of violence, including sexual violence; include the OECD “**gender**” **marker in bilateral humanitarian projects, as France committed to in its humanitarian strategy for 2018-2022 and continue to advocate** for its incorporation by UN and European agencies, funds and programmes;
- **strengthen support to the documentation, collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data and investigations into sexual violence.**

Protection of women and girls and the fight against impunity

OBSERVATION

The report in October 2019 by the United Nations Secretary-General on the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda recalls that women and girls are the first to be affected by crises and they are too often the target of violence, in particular sexual violence. Furthermore, it highlights the permanency of laws, and both political and economic systems and practices that exclude women from public life, marginalize them and work as obstacles to their empowerment and independence.

OBJECTIVES

In this context, the third National Action Plan continues on with the commitments and actions undertaken under the second National Action Plan to strengthen the protection of women and girls against violence and the protection of their rights in conflict and post-conflict situations. It also aims to facilitate their access to health systems, including those related to sexual and reproductive health rights, well-being and physical, sexual and mental healthcare treatment. Specific focus will be given to improving access to justice and the fight against impunity of perpetrators of violence, without periods of limitation.

To this end, the third National Action Plan sets the following objectives:

- **continue to include gender and the protection of women and girls from sexual and sexist violence and violent extremisms in all of France's actions overseas concerning peace and security.**

The following actions will be taken:

- ▶ advocacy actions in international forums, especially those dealing with peace and security matters and conflict resolution, supporting the inclusion of the protection of women from sexual violence and violent extremisms in conflict and post-conflict situations, the promotion and defence of the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls, the defence of human rights defenders and a general gender perspective;
- ▶ the inclusion of gender in the strategic, organizational and operational corpus of the French system in conflict areas;
- ▶ the financing of projects dedicated to the protection of women and children in crisis and conflict contexts and the reduction of gender-based violence (child marriages and forced marriage, trafficking and slavery, sexual violence as a weapon of war, etc.).

- **strengthen the fight against impunity at the international level.**

The following actions will be taken:

- ▶ supporting the fight against impunity for perpetrators of sexual and sexist violence and ensuring wider access for women to the justice system in countries affected by conflict, including through transitional justice;
 - ▶ supporting the international criminal justice system, especially the International Criminal Court;
 - ▶ supporting international investigation mechanisms in the fight against impunity in order to specifically document sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations;
 - ▶ providing assistance in prosecuting perpetrators of sexual violence as war crimes and crimes against humanity;
 - ▶ supporting zero-tolerance policies in international organizations.
- **strengthen national programmes for dealing with sexist and sexual violence.** In conjunction with the results of the Conference on Domestic Violence in 2019 held in France, the aim is to enhance the effectiveness of existing mechanisms, for example by facilitating reporting and accelerating the handling of violence complaints.

- **strengthen the fight against trafficking in human beings, by implementing the second National Action Plan against trafficking in human beings 2019-2021, focusing in particular on the trafficking of women and girls.**
- **strengthen the fight against female genital mutilation in France and elsewhere.**

Women's participation in decisions regarding peace and security

OBSERVATION

The analysis of the peace processes carried out between the years 1990 and 2017 shows that the involvement of women and girls in peace and rebuilding processes is first and foremost a matter of respecting their rights to full, active and effective participation in decision-making processes. Their inclusion also helps foster sustainable, stable peace processes as well as respect for their right to equal participation in decision-making processes. It also ensures their priorities are better taken into account to tackle the violence they are subjected to during conflict. The French High Council for Gender Equality and the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights, in the evaluation of the second National Action Plan, recommended *“ensuring the challenge of women's participation in the management of conflict and post-conflict situations is better addressed”*.

OBJECTIVES

The third National Action Plan therefore continues with the commitment of improving the direct and effective participation of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, at every level of responsibility and in all the areas concerned (politics, economics, social and cultural affairs, education, health, etc.). It will support the implementation of measures adopted to foster greater inclusion of women among the stakeholders committed to prevention, conflict and post-conflict situation management and reconstruction processes.

To this end, the third National Action Plan sets the following objectives:

Bilateral and multilateral actions

- **continue to enhance direct participation of women in peacekeeping and rebuilding operations by supporting their access to positions within civilian and military units, and in senior positions in the chain of command. Increase the number of French women, and their levels of responsibility, within the peace talks that France takes part in.**
- **help build the capacities of women from partner defence and security forces;**
- **promote the participation of women in managing and implementing cooperation, development and humanitarian projects and programmes in crisis and conflict areas, and encourage them to take on positions of responsibility;**

- strengthen the contribution of cooperation, development and humanitarian projects and programmes funded or promoted by the French authorities to the economic, social and political empowerment of women;
- enhance support for women's participation in peace talks and the effective participation of women in the political, economic and social processes of stabilization and post-conflict situations;
- aim for equal numbers of men and women at events within international organizations or other international forums, including on topics linked to issues other than women's rights;

National actions:

- Significantly boost the number of women and facilitate their effective participation at all levels of administration, especially in positions of responsibility and supervision.
- Promote the participation of women and girls in preparing decisions and decision-making from an early age, encouraging girls in secondary school to represent their peers within the representative bodies of their schools.

Promotion of the “Women, Peace and Security” Agenda and the National Action Plan

OBSERVATION

Ownership of the National Action Plan by those in charge of its implementation is an essential prerequisite to its success. That is why the fourth section of the National Action Plan is dedicated to the promotion of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda at national level, in line with the recommendations made by the HCE and the CNCDH in the final report on the evaluation of the second National Action Plan. France will continue its diplomatic action at the Security Council and in multilateral forums to ensure the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda is respected at bilateral and multilateral levels.

OBJECTIVES

To that end, the third National Action Plan aims to consolidate the French efforts made in terms of diplomatic action, awareness-raising and training of those concerned by the implementation of the agenda. This involves setting up regular training programmes that are tailored and specific to each administration and providing cross-cutting sessions in order to raise awareness about the agenda's inter-ministerial challenges. In addition, there will be greater communication about the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda for public opinion.

To this end, the third National Action Plan sets the following objectives:

At national level:

- improve the knowledge and ownership of the agenda and the follow-up to the implementation of the plan by the administrations.

This requires, in particular:

- ▶ **implementation and coordination with the other existing French “gender” and “peace and security” strategies, including France’s International Strategy on Gender Equality (2018-2022)** and the National Action Plan aiming to eradicate female genital mutilation launched in 2019, in order to develop coherent, comprehensive action. The objectives of these strategies feature in this National Action Plan;
- ▶ **establishing contact points within every administration concerned, including within diplomatic posts**, to ensure better ownership of the agenda and coordination of the efforts undertaken; there will also be regular discussions with the **agencies** concerned. For the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, these contact points correspond to the network of contact points in the central administration (in France) and in diplomatic posts working for gender equality, a network established under France’s International Strategy on Gender Equality (2018-2022), and the contact points monitoring the professional action plan for gender equality;
- ▶ **presentations and training** sessions on the agenda and the National Action Plan for all of the ministries that drafted the plan and the Agence Française de Développement, and for those responsible for the implementation of France's external action in the field of peace and security.
- **include relevant aspects of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda in cooperation regarding matters of peace and security and women’s rights;**
- **develop awareness-raising internal communication on the agenda in all the ministries concerned;**
- **spread public awareness about the agenda's challenges.**

At the international level

- **continue efforts around the world in support of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda:**
 - ▶ **continue to defend and strengthen the language agreed for the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda in all relevant texts, including Security Council resolutions, in terms of topics addressed and for specific countries;**
 - ▶ **strengthen the participation of women who have field experience in Security Council meetings and processes, including its subsidiary bodies and as part of its field missions;**
 - ▶ **encourage meetings to be held at the Security Council in relation to the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda;**

- ▶ as part of the Generation Equality Forum organized by UN Women and co-chaired by Mexico and France, promote the full implementation of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda;
- ▶ systematically include, in reports submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), information regarding the implementation of UN Security Council Women, Peace and Security resolutions and CEDAW general recommendation no.30, promote CEDAW references and general recommendation no.30 in the relevant resolutions;
- incorporate relevant aspects of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda in cooperation regarding matters of peace and security and women’s rights, especially in countries in the National Action Plan's priority geographic areas.

This includes:

- ▶ supporting certain countries in the development and implementation of their National Action Plan, specifically through the Francophonie network and European partners;
- ▶ facilitating contact between relevant stakeholders for the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda in countries defined as a priority, with a view to encouraging experience sharing and helping anticipate and prevent crises;
- ▶ continuing the efforts made at the United Nations in support of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda, especially by strengthening the participation of women from conflict areas in the United Nations Security Council processes.

B. Priority geographic areas

Priority geographic areas have been defined for the implementation of the third National Action Plan. Considering the swift developments that can occur in these areas, often in conflict, this cartography may evolve during the National Action Plan's period of validity.

The priority areas concern

- ▶ in Africa: the Sahel, the Lake Chad Basin, the Central African Republic, the African Great Lakes (especially the areas located in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Burundi);
- ▶ in the Americas: Haiti;
- ▶ in Asia: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Afghanistan;
- ▶ in the Middle East: Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan.

C. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Action Plan

The third National Action Plan includes measures for the monitoring and evaluation of its implementation. These will be managed using the indicators identified in the matrix of commitments in the appendix, by each administration.

Civil society will be closely involved in monitoring the National Action Plan. To this end, a regular dialogue will be institutionalized with French civil society and that of the priority countries for all challenges linked to the implementation of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda. The implementation of the plan will be evaluated by the High Council for Gender Equality and the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights. A report of the plan will be presented to the National Assembly and the Senate.

In particular, the following measures will be taken:

- **list of objectives (in the short, medium and long-term) for each pillar in a table of the commitments and monitoring of the implementation of the National Action Plan;**
- **identification within each administration concerned of a focal point who will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the agenda on behalf of their administration;**
- **high-level management provided by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the organization of annual meetings in liaison with all stakeholders concerned at the level of the directors of central administrations, to ensure monitoring and to present**

the results of the implementation of the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda.

These meetings will be organized in cooperation with the High Council for Gender Equality and the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights, which may also, if necessary, involve other civil society actors committed to supporting the « Women, Peace and Security » Agenda and in the field;

- **organization of annual meetings to monitor the implementation of the National Action Plan in priority countries, involving civil society in the field;**
- **joint evaluations at mid-term and at the end of the period of the National Action Plan by the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights and the High Council for Gender Equality;**
- **presentation of the report of the National Action Plan before the relevant committees of the National Assembly and the Senate.**

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