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TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
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**Intervention by  
H.E. Ambassador Katalin Annamária Bogyay  
Permanent Representative**

**on the occasion of the**

**Open debate of the Security Council on Women, Peace and Security:  
“Towards the implementation of the WPS agenda: moving from commitments to  
accomplishments in preparation for the commemoration of  
the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325”**

**29 October 2019**

Your Excellency, Mr. President,

Honorable Members of the Security Council, Dear Colleagues,

Hungary aligns itself with the statement by the European Union, the Group of Friends of WPS, and the African Women leaders Network.

I wish to thank South Africa for convening this important meeting, and also the briefers for their insightful remarks.

Mr. President,

Hungary is committed to the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. I am glad to announce that we are currently in the process of drafting our own National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, which we aim to adopt before the 20th anniversary of the UNSCR 1325.

In order to implement the WPS Agenda on the national level, the Hungarian Defence Forces have incorporated training and education about 1325, gender awareness, sexual exploitation and abuse, and conflict-related sexual violence into national pre-deployment training courses and international courses, such as the International Military Observer Course. In addition, we regularly carry out intensive training courses related to the WPS agenda for NCOs (Non-Commissioned Officers) and officers.

Mainstreaming a gender perspective in peace operations and military processes increases operational efficiency. Moreover, women's increased participation in peacekeeping missions, as well as gender-sensitive strategies for the protection of civilians and humanitarian assistance are of key importance in providing the best assistance possible for women and girls affected by conflict.

With regards to increasing the proportion of deployed female personnel, we are working on projects that indirectly contribute to recruiting a higher percentage of female soldiers for deployment, such as creating a better work-life balance or atypical forms of employment. Our female personnel can participate in UN, NATO or EU missions based on the same conditions as male soldiers in all positions.

Mr. President,

We are appalled by the ongoing systematic and widespread conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence, which can constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity and even genocide. Accountability must be provided accordingly, irrespective of the affiliation of the perpetrator. Sexual exploitation and abuse should similarly be accounted for, and in this regard, Hungary is proud of its track record free from any cases of sexual exploitation and abuse by its peacekeeping personnel in history.

Survivors of sexual violence require not only immediate medical care, but also comprehensive psycho-social support and services which are human rights-based and gender-responsive. We call for the international community to better address the needs of women and girls belonging to religious and ethnic minorities persecuted and displaced by conflict or terrorism. Response must also focus on the community level to eliminate stigma and protect the social fabric of conflict-affected communities.

In order to successfully implement the WPS Agenda, action needs to be taken already in peacetime, on the one hand by addressing the root causes of conflict, preventing militarization and arms proliferation; on the other hand by the protection and promotion of the human rights of all women and girls, eliminating all forms of violence and harmful practices, ensuring equal recognition before the law, empowerment and participation in all aspects of life.

Only inclusive peace can be sustainable. Therefore, ensuring women's full, equal, meaningful and institutionalized participation at all stages and levels of peace processes, in the implementation of peace agreements and wider decision-making structures. Furthermore, we hope to see heightened attention to the needs of women and their meaningful participation in the planning and carrying out of disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration activities, which play a vital role in preventing violent conflict.

Mr. President,

As we look towards the anniversary of Resolution 1325, we reaffirm our commitment and call for a reinforced cooperation to fully implement the WPS agenda.

Thank you for your kind attention.