



SECRETARY GENERAL
LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL
Anders Fogh Rasmussen

REÇU LE 16 JUL. 2014

SG(2014)0238

11 July 2014

Dear Fabio Pompetti,

Thank you for your letter of 12th June and for forwarding the recommendations that your Network has developed with a view to the NATO Summit in Wales in September.

Women's role in peace and security will be at the fore at the NATO Summit in Wales and I expect Nations to make important decisions on how to ensure continued implementation of our Policy and Action Plan. I find the establishment of a permanent position for the Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security to be of particular importance.

NATO, alongside the rest of the international community, attaches great importance to the protection and empowerment of women and girls in Afghanistan. This is part of NATO's overall commitment to the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related Resolutions, which was reinforced this year by the adoption of a revised Policy and, most recently, by the development of an Action Plan - endorsed by NATO Foreign Ministers on 25 June. The preparation of the Action Plan was informed by an open consultation with civil society. ENNA took part in that consultation, and I hope that you agree that many of the recommendations made by your Network and by the other civil society participants are reflected in the Action Plan, which has now been released to the public. You will have noted that NATO and partners are committed to strengthening the dialogue with women's rights group and other representatives from civil society on matters relating to Women, Peace and Security, including establishing local consultative mechanisms, as appropriate.

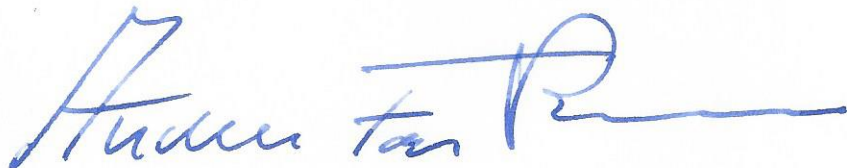
To strengthen our work within ISAF, the first ISAF Gender Adviser of General Officer rank was deployed in April 2014. Her presence has already had positive effects in terms of increased capacity, visibility and access. Concretely, ISAF assists in the development and creation of a better environment for women's participation in the Afghan security services and institutions through the

development of policies and strategies (including anti-harassment policies and provisions, as well as complaints mechanisms) aimed at providing adequate conditions (facilities and infrastructure) and education and training. During the elections, ISAF ensured that sufficient numbers of female searchers were available to allow women to vote.

As you are aware, NATO plans to lead a follow-on mission to train, advise and assist the ANSF after 2014. ISAF Foreign Ministers endorsed the Operational Plan for this mission, called Resolute Support, on 25 June 2014. The mission's ultimate aim is for the Afghan Government to be able to execute its security responsibilities in a sustainable manner, while fully respecting human rights and operating in accordance with the rule of law. I can therefore assure you that training on human rights and on UNSCR 1325 and related Resolution will continue to form an integral part of our future collaboration with Afghanistan. However, implementation of our plans remains contingent on the Bilateral Security Agreement and the NATO Status of Forces Agreement being signed.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the excellent work that ENNA does and believe the continuous and open working-level dialogue between my staff and yours is particularly fruitful. I hope it shall continue in the lead-up to the Wales Summit and beyond.

Yours sincerely,



Anders Fogh Rasmussen

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