

**UN Peacekeeping Ministerial
Interventions by Mrs. Maria Papakyriakou
Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the Federal Republic of Germany
Berlin, 13-14 May 2025**

2. Remarks at the Plenary Pledging Session II

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

25 years after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, we cannot lose sight of the fact that we continue to call for the full implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, that will ensure the full, equal, safe and meaningful participation of women in Peace Operations. Women must be involved at all stages, aspects and levels of peace processes, and conflicts should be addressed through a gender perspective for peace to be all-encompassing and sustainable. Women's participation and contribution to peace processes must, above all, be visible, if any changes are to be instilled both in mindset and in practice.

While stressing the importance of having meaningful participation by women in peace processes, it is essential to note that this goes beyond satisfying the criterion of egalitarian necessity but is in recognition of the fact that peace is more sustainable when it emanates from inclusive processes. More important than participation quotas, is the task of ensuring the qualitative contribution of women to the substantive issues under consideration in a peace process.

UN peace operations need the necessary resources to implement the WPS agenda, but also a comprehensive, integrated approach to achieving these goals. Peacekeeping operations can also help create the safe environment that is necessary for women to participate in peacemaking and peacebuilding. At the same time, Member States, particularly those hosting UN missions, need to actively embrace their own responsibilities, including by enforcing plans for the implementation of the WPS agenda, that are the product of an open and inclusive process.

In this context, I wish to recall Cyprus' commitment to fully implementing the WPS agenda. Drawing on our experience as a host country to a Peacekeeping Operation, Cyprus is actively engaged in enhancing the broader peacekeeping architecture through practical support. In alignment with the UN's capacity-building goals and our national commitment to international peace and security, the Republic of Cyprus reaffirms its pledges to organize and host three specialized training courses in 2025, to support pre-deployment training and military mobility for UN operations. Facilities and costs related to training, accommodation, and local support will be fully covered by Cyprus.

The scheduled courses concern:

- Training Course on Women, Peace, and Security, in October 2025.
- Basic Demining Training, in October 2025.
- Training Course on Search and Rescue:
 - SAR Manager Course: in September 2025
 - SAR Aircraft Coordinator Course: in November 2025

These courses directly respond to capability gaps identified by the UN and aim to enhance gender responsiveness in particular, mission readiness, and operational effectiveness. We are open to cooperating with other Member States in delivering these training programs and invite all interested parties to join us in strengthening the inclusivity and effectiveness of UN Peacekeeping through these initiatives.