

Women Peace Pioneers Initiative was launched as a volunteering women team in the State of Kuwait in 2015. It was officially registered at the Ministry of Social Affairs on 21/01/2016. The Initiative is led by a group of female activists in the field of woman rights in response to the society need for the support of woman involvement in the achievement of peace and security through the awareness of the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 / 2000. Moreover, the Initiative provides consulting services, studies and researches and builds capacities which cater to woman's needs to enhance her active role in the community service. The Initiative seeks to draw a roadmap for woman's involvement in peacemaking starting from the family and ending by the peacemaking process. This is achieved through awareness, empowerment and capacity building to highlight her pioneering role in the society.

Objectives of the Initiative:

- **To make positive and constructive change in the society knowledge structure on woman's involvement in peacemaking;**
- **To create awareness in the society on the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 and its role in woman's involvement in peacemaking;**
- **To develop woman's skills and capabilities in peace building and provide her with the latest technologies and tools in line with the current requirements and provide her with all types of necessary support;**
- **To highlight woman's achievement in the Region peace and motivate her continuing her leading role in keeping the community security and stability and**
- **To create a community culture that supports woman's role in peacemaking.**

This report has been issued in accordance with the following criteria:

- **The recommendations accepted by the Government of Kuwait within the periodic review mechanism before the Human Rights Council in its 21st session, January / February 2015**
- **Adaptation of the local laws to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and**

The studies and researches conducted by the Initiative.

In this report, we will try to highlight the key issues related to woman particularly the enforcement of UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 on Woman, Security and Peace:

- 1- **Enforcement of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW):**

The State of Kuwait ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) by the Emiri Decree No. 24 / 1994. However, we notice that the Convention is not enforced with the required level in terms of direct implementation and its prevalence over the national laws and its widespread publishing. Article (70) of the Constitution of Kuwait gives the international conventions the force of law after their ratification and publishing in the Official Gazette since they become part of the State legal framework.

Recommendations:

- 1- We urge the Kuwaiti Government to take actual steps towards the implementation of all the provisions of the Convention in a systematic and continuous way.**
- 2- To ensure that priority is given to the Convention over the national law and that it should be directly enforced within the national legal framework.**
- 3- We urge the Kuwaiti Government to withdraw its observations regarding the Articles (9) paragraph 2 and Article (2) paragraph (1) sub-paragraph (f) of the Convention.**

2- The UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 on Woman, Security and Peace:

- The voluntary undertakings accepted by the State of Kuwait in the Human Rights Council 21st session within its periodic review mechanism include the approval of a national work plan regarding the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 on Woman, Security and Peace.**
- Although there are national subcommittees concerned with the woman's affairs which is the Cabinet Woman Committee and the Parliament Woman and Family Committee which are temporary committees, we notice that such committees lack a comprehensive work plan aimed to enforce the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325.**

Recommendations:

- 1- To request the Government setting a national work plan to enforce the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 on Woman, Security and Peace.**
- 2- To implement the campaigns of awareness about the Resolution importance for the community peace.**
- 3- To request the Government of Kuwait allowing woman to join the fields of work in Army and Armed Forces as her engagement in the military field is a key element**

of the enforcement of Resolution 1325 through a national plan, in addition her Contributions in UN committees.

- 4- To enforce the role of electronic networks in the support of woman's involvement in peacemaking.

3- Family Violence:

The Government of Kuwait does not adopt a clear and specific legislation penalizing the family violence acts due to the victim's fear of filing a claim. In addition, there is no safe haven to protect the victim. This aggravated this problem recently.

Recommendations:

- 1- To urge the Government of Kuwait approving a clear and specific legislation criminalizing all forms of family violence;
- 2- To provide legal, medical and psychological assistance and rehabilitation through rehabilitation programs and
- 3- Provide an adequate number of orphanages and care houses for the victims of family violence without discrimination or restrictions related to age or marital status.

4- Woman and Political Life:

The Kuwaiti woman suffers from the low percentage of participation in public and leadership positions in the Government as the number is very limited and does not exceed one or two women since the woman access in the Cabinet for the first time in 2005.

In addition, the parliamentary representation is not better than her participation in the Cabinet but even worse. Currently, there is a single woman in the Kuwaiti Parliament. Diplomatic representation of woman is not better.

Recommendations:

- 1- To request the Government continuing the encouragement and facilitation of woman's representation in the Parliament, the ministerial and decision-making positions and increasing her representation in the diplomatic missions abroad.