**Common Pledge to Increase Women’s Full, Equal, and   
Meaningful Participation in Peace Processes**

The full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peace and security efforts is vital to sustainable peace and is firmly rooted in the principles of equality and non-discrimination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. The Security Council, in its landmark resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, urged “increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict.”

Yet almost a quarter century later, the participation of women in peace processes as mediators and negotiators remains inconsistent and inadequate. Urgent and common action is required to move beyond rhetoric to concrete action.

In its mediation and peacemaking efforts, the United Nations has sought to fast-track women’s direct participation in formal peace talks as part of promoting women’s participation at all levels. Many other mediation actors have undertaken important initiatives to promote women’s participation in the processes they support. These experiences show that progress is possible despite continuing and deeply entrenched structural, institutional and systemic barriers.

The international mediation landscape continues to evolve. A diverse set of regional, national and local actors now engage in peacemaking efforts. In this complex environment, it is increasingly rare for any single actor to lead a peace process by itself. Today more than ever, achieving significant advances in women’s participation requires common action by a broad set of mediation actors.

We, the undersigned mediation actors, pledge to make the following commitments to promote and enhance the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the peace processes we support.

In so doing, we commit to:

1. Appointing women as lead mediators and ensuring women are an integral part of our mediation teams;
2. Advocacy by our mediators with conflict parties for concrete targets and supporting measures to advance women’s direct and meaningful participation in peace processes, including as members of their delegations;
3. Consultations by our mediation teams consistently and with a broad range of women leaders and women-led civil society in all stages of peace processes; and
4. Securing gender expertise in our mediation teams to promote gender-responsive peace processes and agreements.

On behalf of the following Member State or Organization: