

Asian Women Peacemaker's Conference

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<http://www.regionalinterfaith.org.au/component/content/article/97-highlights/259-asian-women-peacemakers-conference.html>



An Inter-faith Asian Women's Conference on Peace Across Faith Perspectives was held in Jakarta on 29 - 30 September 2010 and was attended by women of many faiths from many nations.

The Inter-faith Perspective in Realizing the Role of Women Peacemakers in the Implementation of UNSCR 1325

The Asian Women's Conference on Peace Across Faith Perspectives (The Interfaith perspective in realizing the Role of Women Peacemakers in the Implementation of UNSCR 1325) is an attempt to share experiences and use the knowledge of women to build peace. The conference was attended by women's organizations in Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, India, Philippines, Nepal, Afghanistan, East Timor) with the support of women activists across the country (the Diaspora Communities, which is domiciled in the Netherlands: from Somalia, Burundy, and Ethiopia) who have awareness of the issues of peace, especially to see how far the UN Resolution 1325 have been prepared and implemented by states. The conference is hosted by: National Commission on Women, MWP (Multicultural Women Peacemaker Network), the ICRP (Indonesian Conference on Religion and Peace), IFOR / WPP (International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Women Peacemakers Program), which is supported by the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic Indonesia.

UN Resolution 1325 for Women, Peace and Security was ratified by the UN Security Council on 31 October 2000 which specifically focuses on the impact of war on women and the contribution of women in conflict prevention and peace building efforts. UN Resolution 1325 is an international law that mandates UN member states to implement it. This resolution became the basis for ensuring the protection and empowerment of women in conflict areas and ensure the involvement / participation of women in decision-making processes at all levels relating to issues of conflict and peace.

One of the lessons learned from countries that have implemented the UN Resolution 1325, and based on the analysis of many conflicts that occurred in Indonesia, the bias often associated with interpretation creates new seeds of conflict and in conditions like this, women become victims. Therefore, cross-faith perspectives need to be one important aspect to be considered in order to implement UN Resolution 1325.

The conference was to formulate a number of important issues related to 3 aspects:

1. **Protection;** lack of protective measures for women victims in conflict and post conflict areas, especially for women victims of sexual violence, women refugees, victims of discrimination and marginalization based on cultural identity, faith, and ethnic
2. **Promotions;** importance of empowering women as agents of peace and to encourage the emergence of women leaders in their respective communities.
3. **Participation;** seek the involvement and participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution efforts, as well as other measures in the framework of post-conflict (such as repatriation and reparation).

After two days of consultation and listening to women of many lands and many faiths, the Conference recommended:

1. Countries formulate National Action Plans to ensure implementation of UN Resolution 1325 on the agenda, strategy and commitment of the State, which is implemented in a concrete policy of State
2. Countries to ensure the reform of the bureaucracy, in particular security sector reform to support efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts with women's perspective and cross-faith perspectives
3. States guarantee the protection of the rights of women victims of conflict, promotion in the context of women's empowerment, and participation of women in all levels of decision-making processes especially those related to peace-building efforts.