



# CROATIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE  
GENEVA

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2<sup>ND</sup> slot

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**Statement by**

**H.E. Ms. Vesna Vuković, Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of  
Croatia to the United Nations Office at Geneva**

**Eighteenth Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Annual discussion on the integration of a  
gender perspective in the work of the  
Human Rights Council**

Geneva, 26 September 2011

Madam President,

Croatia welcomes this **innovative and interactive discussion on the integration of a gender perspective** throughout the UN system, and it is my great pleasure to participate in it.

Concerning the women's role in today's world and related contemporary challenges, **important efforts within the UN** have been made to address the gender inequalities. In this vein, I would firstly like to commend the establishment of the new **UN entity – UN Women** as a historic step in accelerating the Organization's goals on gender equality and the empowerment of women. Croatia will follow its work with great interest, and we support its Strategic Plan 2011 - 2013 and its recently adopted priorities.

Also, **the UPR mechanism** is an important tool for further development of all aspects of the rights of women. The UPR recommendations represent significant contribution in addressing different segments of women empowerment and the comprehensive protection of women's rights. In this light, after the finalization of its first UPR cycle, my Government is fully committed, in close partnership with the civil society, to consider the implementation of all recommendations, including those related to non-discrimination of women and broader gender perspective.

We also follow with great attention the **work of Human Rights Council's special procedures**, including the Advisory Committee, in their efforts to integrate a gender perspective into the implementation of their mandates. In this light, we welcome their mutual cooperation and consultation.

Croatia supports the invaluable work of the **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**. Allow me to mention that Croatia is currently preparing its Fourth report to the CEDAW Convention which will be additionally harmonized with the UPR recommendations.

Madam President,

Croatia contributes to achieving the objectives of the **Security Council Resolution 1325** on women, peace and security. In July this year, the Government adopted the National Action Plan for Implementation of the Resolution 1325. According to the Plan, Croatia will further improve and harmonize its agenda with current NATO, EU and OSCE activities in this field and will strengthen the role of Croatian women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts as well as in peace building and in the participation at all levels of decision making.

**question**

- *I have a short question to Ms Aparna Mehrotra (UN Women). What role will the UN Women play in the implementation of the Resolution 1325, taking into account the former role of the UNIFEM as a strong supporter of this resolution ?*

Thank you, Madame President.