

1. There has been considerable efforts made to ensure the progress of Ireland's first Action Plan and I commend all who have supported this project. The secretariat in the DFAT, in particular, are to be congratulated. While the Dept of Justice has not been pro-active so far I would hope that the new structures planned may improve the situation.
2. In terms of priorities for the future the continuation of work to date must be pursued but there are two areas, in my view, which deserve closer attention: a) The experience of women asylum seekers arriving to Ireland from conflict zones, There is a need to ensure that when such women are living in direct provision they are guaranteed safety and dignity. b) Northern Ireland is another priority. It would make sense to hold a meeting of the next Monitoring Group in Belfast to encourage closer co-operation on the issues of 1325. Formal support for the 'toolkit' published recently in NI would also be helpful.
3. Political work already begun should be expanded to include presentations to the Ministers of DAFT and Dept of Justice as well as the new Minister of State Aodhan O'Riordan.TD. and continued contact with the relevant Oireachtas Committees.
4. The role of CSOs on the Monitoring Group should be enhanced. Engagement with field workers or women from the developing world within these organizations might give useful information to the MG in the future.
5. It is important that Res 1325 is embedded into public policy. Am I right in thinking that the first Action Plan was not formally passed by way of resolution through the Oireachtas? The second Plan provides an opportunity for the Minister to present it to the Dail and Seanad for approval.