

DDR Gender Checklist for Peace Operations Assessment Missionsⁱ

- How many women and girls are in and associated with the fighting forces? What kind of roles within the groups have they played?
- Is there an awareness of sexualized violence against women combatants, both during the conflict and after? Are there facilities for treatment, counselling and protection?
- Who is demobilized and who is retained as part of the restructured force? Do women have the same right to choose to be demobilized as men?
- Is there sustainable funding to ensure the long-term success of the DDR process? Are special funds allocated to women, and if not, what measures are in place to ensure that their needs will receive proper attention?
- Has the support of local, regional and national women's organizations been enlisted to aid reintegration? Has the collaboration of women leaders in assisting ex-combatants and widows returning to civilian life been enlisted? Do existing women's organizations being trained to understand the needs and experiences of ex-combatants?
- If cantonment is being planned, will there be separate and secure facilities for women? Will fuel, food and water be provided so women do not have to leave the security of the site?
- If a social security system exists, can women ex-combatants easily access it? Does it target their needs and promote their skills?
- Can the economy support the kind of training women might ask for during the demobilization period? Have obstacles, such as narrow expectations of women's work, been taken into account? Will child-care be provided to ensure women have equitable access to training opportunities?
- Do training packages offered to women reflect local gender norms and standards about gender-appropriate behaviour or does training attempt to expand them? Does this benefit or hinder women's economic independence?
- Are single or widowed female ex-combatants recognized as heads of households and permitted access to housing and land? Are legal measures in place to protect their access to land and water?

ⁱ This Checklist is drawn partially from "Gender Checklist for Peace Operations" prepared by the UN Inter-Agency Taskforce on Women, Peace and Security in June 2003.