In 2015 the global community celebrated the 15th anniversary of the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security. This landmark agreement paved the way for significant progress in the leadership and participation of women in peace-building, as well as the security sector governance and reform processes. However, a number of challenges remain including, the continued prevalence of sexual violence in situations of conflict and insecurity; and the impunity of both the State and non-State actors that perpetrate these crimes.

The Principality of Liechtenstein, a Permanent Observer State of the OAS since January 2014, places high priority on women’s empowerment and women’s human rights in its foreign policy approach, in particular at the United Nations and with regard to the Women, Peace and Security agenda which has its most prominent basis in SC Resolution 1325. For the first time it was recognized in this resolution that armed conflicts have an especially serious impact on women. The resolution also calls for their greater inclusion in peacekeeping and peacebuilding measures. Liechtenstein’s engagement with regard to the empowerment of women includes their participation in mediation processes. It also supports the Monthly Action Points for the UN Security Council, which show how to better integrate the WPS into its daily work and subsequently achieve a better implementation of SC Resolution 1325.

This policy round-table, organized jointly by the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Office of the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), will focus on identifying concrete policy and programmatic entry points for building and strengthening a gender, peace and security agenda in the Americas. The session will also feature the launch of the Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit in Spanish, an initiative led by DCAF and UN Women.
Gender, Peace and Security: A policy round-table
Thursday, March 17th 2016
*9:00am – 11:30am
Hall of the Americas
Organization of American States

9:00  Breakfast and registration

9:30-9:45  Welcome Remarks
Nestor Mendez, Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States

9:45-10:05  Keynote Speech
Dr. Aurelia Frick, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education and Culture of the Principality of Liechtenstein

10:05-10:50  Panel discussion: “Gender, peace and security”
Moderator: Karen Bozicovich, Section Chief, Information and Knowledge, Department of Public Security, OAS
Nicola Popovic, Training Specialist, UN Women Training Centre
Rear Admiral Martha Herb, Director, Inter-American Defense College
Daniel de Torres, Deputy Head of Operations and Director of the Gender and Security Program at the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

10:50-11:20  Question and answer session

11:20  Closing Remarks
Carmen Moreno, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women

11:30  Conclusion

*Light breakfast will be served at 9:00 am

To register, please click here.

The event will be streamed live at http://www.oas.org/en/media_center/webcast_schedule.asp