



**Fact Sheet on the Implementation of the National Action Plan for the Implementation of United Nations
Security Council Resolution 1325
June 2018**

Introduction to the National Plan for the Implementation of Resolution 1325

The preparation of the National Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (NAP) was the culmination of efforts by the Higher National Committee (HNC) for the Implementation of the UNSCR 1325 which is chaired by the Minister of Women's Affairs and includes 19 representatives from Palestinian government and civil institutions. The committee was formed in 2012 upon decision# 08/27/14 / CE / SF and its strategic framework was approved in 2015.

This effort stresses on the notion that Palestine is an extension of the international community which is affected by the security of its nationals. This framework provides a holistic basis for unifying common efforts and working within a single vision and specific objectives that lead to its application in domestic policies and measures. In 2016, the HNC began preparing the National Action Plan [NAP] for implementing the resolution in line with the Palestinian vision and in the context of the lengthy colonial occupation of the Palestinian territories and its many impacts on Palestinian women. This includes the protection of Palestinian women and girls from Israeli occupation violations, promoting their participation in peace and security issues, and holding accountable those who violate their rights in accordance with international humanitarian law and international human rights treaties.

The NAP for 2017-2019 is based largely on the achievements of Palestinian women in the implementation of the resolution. It was launched in parallel with the National Women's Coalition Plan for the implementation of the resolution, which is consistent with the national plan and the objectives of the Palestinian women's movement. The Ministry of Women's Affairs representative in the Committee was also approved as the General Rapporteur for implementation of the plan and who is to coordinate the work of the Higher National Committee (HNC) and follow up the implementation of the plan with all concerned parties including ministries and civil society institutions.

Introduction:

This factsheet aims at providing an overview of the achievements made in regards to the objectives of the National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325¹, to identify the most important successes and challenges related to the realization of its outputs and the implementation of its activities, and to support the members of the (HNC) in reviewing the expected outputs, the course of implementation in accordance with the developments, events related to the Palestinian context and plans for the coming years.

The factsheet was prepared using a methodology that is inclusive of the members of the HNC and other relevant institutions which were determined as needed. First, a review of reference documents was carried out along with literature that documents the current situation from the perspective of the strategic objectives and their indicators². These results can measure any change in the level of achievement/performance and monitor plan indicators, although there is no national observatory to date. The published reports and studies of the members of the HNC and other institutions that directly relate to the goals and indicators as well as the social media pages were also reviewed to document interventions as much as possible. In parallel with the review of the studies and literature, individual

¹In accordance with the amendments adopted in the monitoring and evaluation system, prepared by the Higher National Committee.

²Annex of studies, research and references in the progress report

meetings were held with 17³ members of the HNC, in addition to three representatives of relevant government institutions who were met with in person or by phone when a meeting could not be set.

The data provided in this paper, especially in terms of strategic objectives and their indicators are updated data for 2017 and/or 2018 (as mentioned for each indicator). Furthermore the paper includes all the achievements that were monitored during individual interviews or by reading reports and other publications.

Challenges on follow-up of the results and achievements

It should be noted that organization of the plan and indicators greatly impacted the preparation process of the paper. The absence of a theory of change led to a gap in the logical framework and the correlation of some planned outputs with the strategic objective and impact indicators. For example, all the outputs of the first strategic objective addressed the provision of services to women affected by Israeli occupation violations and the mechanism for dealing with each violation, which does not necessarily contribute to reducing the number of cases of violence against women; that is, the example applies to other impact indicators. Additionally, in several instances, there was confusion between the impact and the outputs. For example, in the first strategic objective the impact indicator presented in the plan is the proportion of Palestinian women affected by violations of the Israeli occupation and who receive support by official Palestinian institutions, from among the overall number of victims. This is a service-related output indicator that does not measure the impact of assistance/support on women.

The investment in localizing the resolution at the institutional and policy level is essential for monitoring short and long-term results, which are not covered by the plan; some service ministries lack clear methodologies for targeting Palestinian women and girls who are exposed to violations by the occupation and the tools to follow up with them, which is a gap that directly affects the opportunity to achieve long-term goals.

General facts on the level of achievement of the 41 NAP outputs, according to the interviews with the members of the HNC and the review of outputs published by the committee member organizations are as follows:

- Completion of and continuous work on 53% of planned outputs.
- 18% of planned outputs that have not yet been achieved have been allocated budgets.
- No budgets were allocated for 5% of the planned outputs.
- 23% of the planned outputs are not considered achievable in the short-run due to reasons beyond budget availability. These outputs are based on the first strategic objective, especially on the reconstruction of Gaza and improving the investment environment for women affected by occupation violations.

³Members of the Higher National Committee, which participated in individual meetings: the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Information, the Central Bureau of Statistics, the General Union of Women Al-Haq, Al-Haq, Miftah, NGOs Against Violence, Women's Affairs, Union of Working Women. As for non-members, meetings were held with the Ministry of Jerusalem, the Ministry of Economy and telephone communication "with the Ministry of Prisoners' Affairs, Editors and the Wall Resistance Committee.

Chart 1. The level of achievement in achieving the planned outputs

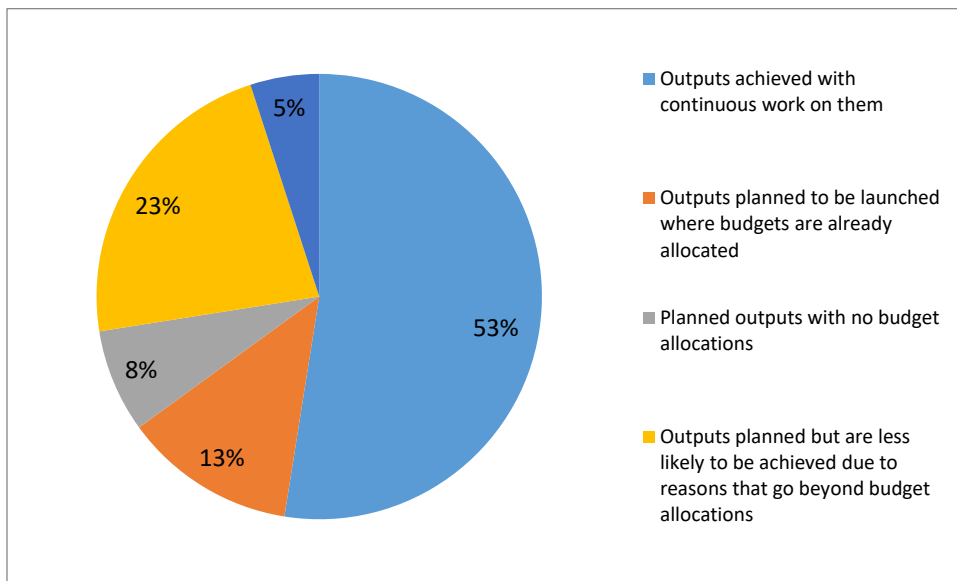


Chart 2: Percentage of planned outputs achieved during 2017-2018 and that are ongoing according to strategic objectives:

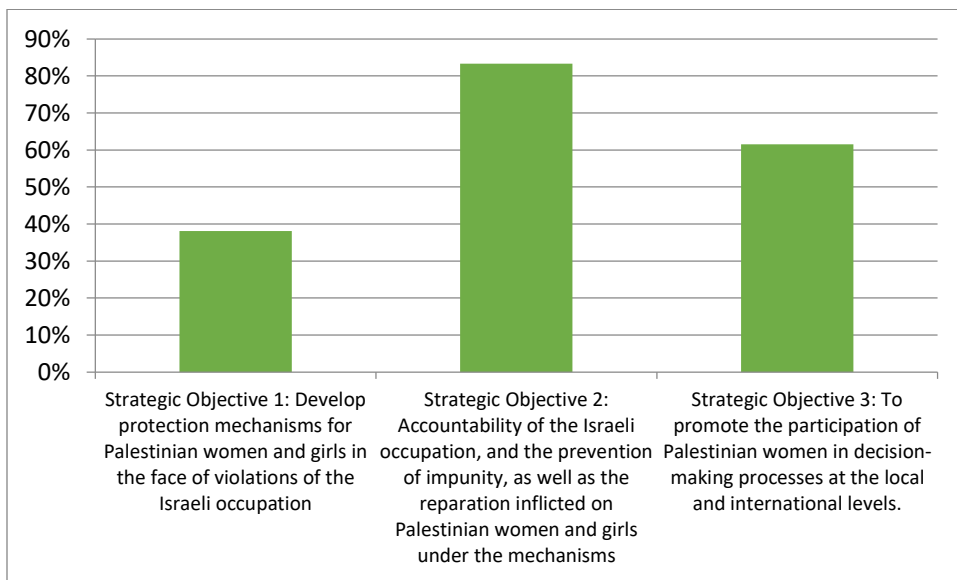
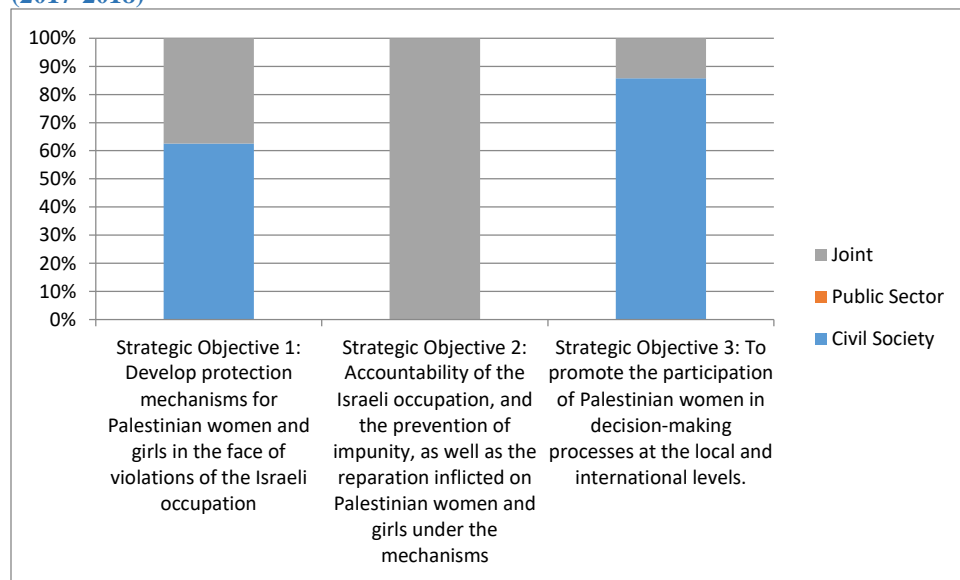


Chart 3: Percentage of the contribution of the implementing agencies to the outputs achieved or are ongoing (2017-2018)



It can be noted from the above chart that the planned outputs at the level of individual public sector institutions have not been achieved while public sector institutions have contributed to achieving some of the joint planned outputs. We can see that the level of achievement in the second strategic objective is high as a result of cooperation and coordination between the public and civil sectors in the second strategic objective.

Strategic Objective 1: To develop protection mechanisms for Palestinian women and girls against Israeli violations

The achievement of this strategic objective is supported by two key policies, including improving the quality of support services provided for women and girls who survived gender-based discrimination, especially violence from the Israeli occupation, and the policy of strengthening the resilience of Palestinian women and girls living under Israeli occupation.

These policies, in essence, take into account the national Palestinian role of reparation for women subjected to violence and gender-based discrimination as a result of Israeli violations, with limited focus on the provision of protection and security for Palestinian women and girls based on the rules of the armed colonial party that violate their rights, to which Israel has not declared its adherence; meanwhile the international community failed to address these rules for providing security and protection for Palestinian women and girls. The proposed interventions target women whose rights have been directly violated, with limited coverage of the additional impact that the violations of Israeli occupation of the Palestinian people in general has on women and girls.

As previously noted, challenges in monitoring the results included lack of a clear correlation between the proposed outputs and their contribution to the planned impact, coupled with weak institutional capacity in monitoring and evaluation and poor coordination among committee members .

Facts based on the impact indicators of the first strategic objective

1. Cases of violence against Palestinian women and girls by the Israeli occupation, including:
 - Demolition orders throughout 2017 and the first quarter of 2018 for 517 units in the Jerusalem area, resulting in the displacement of 774 Palestinians⁴
 - The number of Palestinian women in Israeli jails rose to 62 at the end of March 2018; among these, six were women under the age of 18 and 21 were mothers of 87 children, in addition to around 6,000 mothers separated from their imprisoned sons and daughters⁵.
 - The monthly average of settler attacks on Palestinian homes and property, which resulted in human or property loss, rose to 21 per month "in 2018 from 14 cases per month".
 - At least 110 attacks on female journalists and human rights defenders in 2017, including 42 cases of physical assault.
2. By 2016, 55% of Palestinian women had experienced violence related to the Israeli occupation at least once⁶ with 33% of refugee women in the West Bank and Gaza Strip subjected to direct violence by Israeli occupation forces⁷.
3. The monthly average of arrests and night raids in the West Bank throughout 2018 increased to 432 operations per month, compared to 240 operations per month in 2017. In 2017⁸, 17 Jerusalemite women lost their residency rights in Jerusalem and were stripped of their social rights.
4. The percentage of Palestinian women and girls who did not receive health services (due to the lack of permits from the Israeli occupation for treatment in Jerusalem, outside Gaza and/or outside Palestine) from those who applied for permits, reached 46%, which means on average, 490 health permit applications per month are rejected or postponed.
5. Percentage of Palestinian women affected by Israeli violations who receive assistance and empowerment programs by official Palestinian institutions, from the total number of victims:
 - Social and financial assistance for 39% of women directly affected by demolitions and demolition orders in Jerusalem and Area C in addition to 973 families and women's associations in Area C
 - 0.03% of former female prisoners⁹. This is addition to providing legal aid to six female prisoners in Israeli jails.

Major Outputs in Strategic Objective 1:

⁴https://www.ochaopt.org/sites/default/files/demolition_report_16_04_2018.pdf

⁵<http://www.addameer.org/publications/israeli-occupation-continues-violate-rights-palestinian-women>

⁶<http://palestine.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/02/images-palestine-report>

⁷ Include Walking over bodies, breaking into rooms, threatening dogs, physical and sexual abuse, insulting, arresting, arresting and investigating, preventing people from saying goodbye- <http://www.miftah.org/PublicationDetails.cfm?id=111>

⁸ http://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/palestine/documents/WHO_monthly_Gaza_access_report_Dec_2017-final.pdf?ua=1

⁹ There is a reservation to some degree of publication of this type of data for political considerations and funding considerations

Bearing in mind the limited capacity to monitor output indicators, even though some outputs are clear, not all indicators of the number of women who received legal, social and health services are available for two main reasons; First, services provided by the HNC do not necessarily represent all service providers, while there is no unified mechanism for monitoring services provided by all civil, governmental or international organizations to this particular category. For example, the HNC did not include public sector service providers in the Gaza Strip, international service providers such as UNRWA or other civil society organizations such as Al Dameer, even though these institutions directly target women and girls subjected to violence from the occupation. The second reason is the lack of congruence between the processes and programs in the government institution sector to include these categories (women and girls who endured Israeli occupation violence) in their plans as a priority¹⁰; hence they are neither directly targeted, monitored nor documented by the specific ministries.

Issues related to planned outputs

- The subject of women in the reconstruction and related outputs in the plan has not been officially addressed under the protection clause, due to the disrupted reconstruction process as a result of Israeli and Egyptian restrictions imposed on crossings, the failure of donors to meet their financial commitments and the political division between Fatah and Hamas, which weakened the mechanism for reconstruction¹¹.
- The proposed interventions by the Ministry of Justice are interventions that do not fall within the priorities of the ministry, although a budget has been allocated to implement some of them; the continuity of the intervention's outcomes remains questionable. For example, the development of the legal services manual and the training of legal service providers on its use is an interim activity that the Ministry of Justice will not follow up after completion, whether through the provision of legal services or consultations.
- All interventions related to the development of the investment environment for initiatives of women affected by Israeli violations have not begun because they do not coincide with the priorities and programs of the Ministry of National Economy. However, some efforts are still being made for their consideration.
- There has been no action taken to enact the Capital Law¹², and there are serious questions about the possibility of enacting it and creating political influence towards it.
- Some of the planned outputs (such as the guidebooks for service services and a database for service-provider institutions) were available before the plan and can only be further developed.
- Despite the adoption of the NAP, in some interviews, there were reservations by the General Rapporteur of the Plan and some ministry representatives over the objective in terms of holding the occupation accountable. These reservations were mainly because of funding reasons, which narrows the chances of the resolution's institutionalization in the public sector. Another example is in relation to the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers and the contribution of the HNC members from the secretariat in advocating for the participation of women in the reconstruction process and advocating towards Palestinian national reconciliation.

Specific outputs both completed and ongoing

- Throughout 2017-2018, civil society organizations provided social services to at least 1,720 women from the target groups according to the plan.
- Civil society organizations provided mental health services to at least 1,850 women in 2017 and in the first quarter of 2018.

¹⁰For example, the protection of those affected by the violence of occupation at the Ministry of Social Development is not within the programs, targeting priorities or monitoring and evaluation systems. This applies to the Ministry of Justice and its relationship to the legal services of these groups.

¹¹According to the Gender Unit in the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers

¹²<http://muqtafi.birzeit.edu/pg/getleg.asp?id=14141>

- Civil society organized monthly visits for international delegations and activists with the participation of gender specialists, to areas affected by Israeli occupation violations, with the aim of increasing the numbers of international and rights activists that support women's issues.
- Civil society organized at least seven targeted initiatives for international institutions that provide services for women and girls in priority geographic areas.
- At least three free hotlines provided specialized services for Palestinian women, including women exposed to Israeli violations.
- Training at least 495 social and health service providers on handling women who suffered violence, including 75 which focused on dealing with landmines.
- Training at least 60 women in project management.

Outputs initiated but not yet achieved (planned for 2018) with budgets already allocated:

- Establishing a database for security institutions, particularly the military liaison (on the arrest of women and children, assaults or demolition of homes or schools).
- Identifying institutions that provide grants and loans to women affected by Israeli violations at the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

Key challenges and recommendations related to the implementation of the outputs of Strategic Objective I:

Challenge 1: Limitation in budget allocations to implement the plan

Allocating budgets to the Ministry of Social Development, Justice and Economy to localize the decision and the requirements for implementing the plan, including mechanisms to target Palestinian women and girls who are subjected to violence as a result of Israeli violations; The allocation of budgets for the provision of services, taking into account the priority geographic areas as adopted by the Plan.

Recommendations by the members of the Higher National Committee and the specialized ministries

1. The status of women subjected to Israeli occupation violence as part of the strategic priorities of the ministries, especially the Ministry of Social Development, Justice and National Economy, in addition to harmonizing the programs and mechanisms for targeting them and documenting the services provided to them
2. Coordination of action regarding monitoring and evaluation with the national monitoring system at the Central Bureau of Statistics

Recommendations of the advisory:

Search for opportunities to build on past achievements of manuals and observatories to increase efficiency in implementation, such as the directory of service providers developed by Miftah before the plan.

Challenge 2: Emptying Jerusalem of its institutions, which limits the number of institutions targeting women and girls exposed to Israeli violence at the level of providing services and monitoring violations of their rights

Recommendations of the HNC members and ministries

1. To add the participation of institutions operating in Jerusalem to the HNC, including the Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs and the Jerusalem Center for Women in addition to the Ministry of Islamic Waqf.
2. To increase the level of coordination between the organizations and entities operating in Jerusalem and official governmental institutions

Recommendations of the advisory

To enforce a rights-based approach in public sector institutions and target the rights aspect of violations against women and girls in Jerusalem as well as services provided to them

Challenge 3: There is a gap between decision-makers and some representatives of public institutions.

Recommendations of the HNC members and ministries:

1. Commitment by committee members from the public sector institutions to the plan's priorities at the policy level and in terms of targeting and outreach.
2. Increasing coordination and communication with the specialized ministries which are not part by the HNC, especially the Ministry of National Economy, Jerusalem Affairs and Public Works

Recommendations of the advisory

Capacity-building for staff in specialized ministries on their roles in the implementation of the plan and mechanisms to integrate them into the ministry's priorities, in particular in the development of programs that target women and girls vulnerable to Israeli violence.

Second strategic objective: Accountability of the Israeli occupation and the prevention of impunity, as well as reparation for Palestinian women and girls in accordance with international and national mechanisms

Achieving this goal is supported by a policy to hold the Israeli occupation accountable, internationally and at the country level, for its violation of the rights of Palestinian women and girls, in addition to strengthening institutional capacities regarding mechanisms for monitoring and documenting the implementation of Resolution 1325. This is in line with the first pillar of the national policy agenda which calls for activating accountability mechanisms against the occupation, towards the realization of an independent state and ending the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories on the 1967 borders¹³. In spite of the major challenges facing this national priority, the interventions proposed in the National Plan contribute to bringing the voice of Palestinian women to the relevant international bodies, by providing data on Israeli violations of Palestinian rights and their multidimensional impact on Palestinian women and girls. This is essentially achieved by lobbying for women's participation on issues of conflict resolution as well as pressing for accountability.

According to women's and human rights organizations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, separating women's issues from overall Palestinian issues in terms of holding Israel accountable is not easy due to the multiple effects of Israeli violations against Palestinian rights in general. To that end, some women's and human rights organizations see the need to focus on direct violations, violence and discrimination against Palestinian women and girls, including arrests, house demolitions, settler attacks, nightly assaults on homes and direct physical and verbal violence. For example, the escalation of Israeli violence in the Gaza Strip has resulted in a sharp rise in poverty levels and an increase in social ills that have led to women being subjected to gender-based domestic violence, including murder, humiliation, rape and others¹⁴. Another example of Israeli violations against women and girls' rights is its policy of collective punishment against all Palestinians across the board, such as closures and checkpoints, the use of weapons including internationally-banned weapons.

Facts on fulfilling the second strategic objective according to impact indicators (for 2017-mid-2018)

¹³ https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/npa_english_final_approved_20_2_2017_printed.pdf

¹⁴ http://www.miftah.org/Publications/Books/A_Vision_for_Palestinian_Women_on_the_International_Review_Ar.pdf

1. Among the eight resolutions issued by the UN Human Rights Council and various UN bodies throughout 2017-2018 on the rights of Palestinians and violations of the Israeli occupation, one resolution was issued by the UN Commission on the Status of Women on Palestinian women and girls directly¹⁵.

2. Israel prevented the visit of the Special Rapporteur on human rights from entering the Palestinian territories; the most recent visit of Ms. Dubravka Šimonovic, Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences in 2016

3. Throughout 2017-2018, two of at least 32 periodic and monthly reports issued by the United Nations human rights organizations on Palestine (Office of the Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process¹⁶, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights¹⁷, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs¹⁸, Security Council reports on women, security and peace¹⁹) clearly reported on violations of Palestinian women and girls' rights by the Israeli occupation²⁰.

4. Human rights violations against Palestinians in general were included in the referral to the International Criminal Court in 2018. No direct violations of the rights of Palestinian women and girls were included.

Major Outputs achieved under Strategic Objective Two:

- Presenting at least four additional notifications, supplementary notes and follow-up to the Office of the International Criminal Court Prosecutor, as well as a monthly report on Israeli violations of international law submitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This includes a submission by the State of Palestine on Israeli crimes and crimes against humanity committed by Israel. The report on Israeli crimes emphasized on crimes against Palestinian children, including girls (the Tamimi case). Civil society also submitted a notification to the Attorney General on Israel's failure to open a serious investigation into war crimes, and the file of evidence on Israeli war crimes and crimes against humanity committed against Palestinians in the West Bank, including Jerusalem.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated in the open session of the Security Council on Women, Security and Peace. It presented an oral and written statement on the national plan, violations of the occupation and demands for international protection of the Palestinian people, especially Palestinian women and girls.

¹⁵ Four resolutions issued by the Human Rights Council at its 37th session: Resolution of the Palestinian people. The resolution on the status of human rights in occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, the resolution of Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem and the occupied Syrian Golan, resolution on accountability and justice in all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. 5. Resolution at the 28th special session of the Human Rights Council on violations of international law in the context of large-scale civil protests which condemned violations of the occupation and the decision to form an international fact-finding committee in the crimes of the occupation since 30/03/2018. 6 Resolution on the Status and Assistance of Palestinian Women by the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. 8. Support the provision of health services to the Palestinian people, including prisoners and detainees; 8. Resolve the International Labor Conference, organized by the United Nations International Labor Organization, to establish an international committee to consider the situation of workers in the occupied Arab territories.

¹⁶ <https://unsco.unmissions.org/unsco-reports>

¹⁷ <http://www.refworld.org/country,,UNHCR,,PSE,,,0.html>

¹⁸ <https://www.ochaopt.org/reports>

¹⁹ <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/search.php?IncludeBlogs=10&limit=15&tag=%22Secretary-General%27s%20Reports%22+AND+%22Women%20Peace%20and%20Security%22&ctype=Women,%20Peace%20and%20Security&rtype=Secretary-General%27s%20Reports&cbtype=women-peace-and-security>

²⁰ Two reports of the Office of the High Commissioner

- At least eight NGOs participated in parallel sessions and side events on the sidelines of Human Rights Council sessions 34,35, 36, 37 and 38, in which oral and written statements, including recommendations on the human rights situation and Israeli violations against Palestinians, especially women and children, were submitted. In addition to the participations, civil society organizations presented their report on Israeli violations against natural resources in the Jordan Valley and the impact of the forced environment on the rights of Palestinian girls and women.
- Through the employment of international conventions for holding Israel accountable, the State of Palestine filed a complaint with the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination on 24 April 2018. The complaint pertained to Israel's violation of the Convention as well as a series of violations (through policies and practices) committed against Palestinian people including women and girls with the aim of creating a demographic entity with a Jewish majority in Palestine.
- The Special Palestinian Committee on the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women also responded to the Committee's list of issues focusing on the negative impact of the occupation on Palestinian women and violation of their rights. Palestinian civil society participated in the 68th meeting of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, reporting on Israeli violations and non-compliance by Israel of women's rights guaranteed by the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Civil society also made an urgent appeal to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on adequate housing for urgent intervention to prevent the demolition of the Al Khan Al Ahmar area, which includes the expulsion of 180 Palestinians.
- Participation of at least eight Palestinian civil society organizations who prepared at least four alternative reports and organized four parallel events, on the sidelines of the Israeli CEDAW Review Committee. Civil society organizations and international organizations also jointly presented to the CEDAW committee in its 70th session on Israeli violations against Palestinian women and girls in Jerusalem, Area C and in Gaza, in addition to an alternative report on the right to family reunification and the right to form a family in light of Israel's violation of this right, which is guaranteed in the International Declaration of Human Rights and the CEDAW agreement. Also, the status of Palestinian women in Israeli jails, which is in contravention of international humanitarian law and CEDAW's General Recommendation 30.
- The participation of Palestinian civil society organizations in the Business and Human Rights Group session on the role of private companies in the construction of illegal settlements and the construction of the Apartheid Wall. This is in addition to the report of Karama, prepared by four Palestinian women's institutions, which was discussed at the 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March 2018 on the violations committed against Palestinian refugee women, Jerusalemite women, women in the Gaza Strip and women prisoners.
- Pertaining to having an effective national system for monitoring and documenting the implementation of the stipulations of Resolution 132; the monitoring and evaluation system for the implementation of the national plan for UNSCR 1325 was developed and the Ministry of Women's Affairs initiated the collection of periodic reports as proposed by the system. Moreover, a team for internal crimes was established, responsible for documenting and investigating facts related to Israeli crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court. The decision to form the team, comprised of three women, was made by the Interior Ministry.
- The Palestinian Commission for Prisoner Affairs issued a report on women prisoners in the Damoun Prison.
- Training of at least 1,930 women and youth in monitoring, documenting and reporting on Israeli violations against Palestinian women.

- Periodic coverage of Israeli violations by the media. The Ministry of Information issued 12 infographs on Israeli violations against journalists, including female journalists, on prisoners in Israeli jails and a video on the stereotyping of women in the Israeli media.

The most significant challenges to achieving the outputs of the second strategic objective and recommendations for overcoming them as indicated by the members of the (HNC) through the interviews:

Challenge 1: the difficulty of adopting draft resolutions by UN bodies due to political pressures on States

Recommendations of HNC members

1. Continuing to raise women's issues in meetings and public meetings and include them on the agendas of UN agencies; to submit draft resolutions to pressure towards condemning the Israeli occupation and holding it accountable
2. Targeting Palestinian ambassadors and providing them with periodic data on the violence against Palestinian women and girls to be used in pressuring international bodies to provide protection and hold Israeli rights violators accountable
3. Continuing to submit monthly reports to the International Criminal Court on the crimes of the occupation against Palestinians and the preparation of special reports by ministries and civil society organizations working on violations against women, girls and Palestinians.

Challenge 2: limited competence and capacity of national institutions in preparing the necessary information in accordance with international standards

Recommendations of HNC members

1. Development of competencies at the level of executive departments in the field of monitoring, documentation and development of the relevant systems; while a national committee headed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was formed, localization of the resolution requires the integration of the issues of women exposed to Israeli violence, within ministry systems and programs including service-providers, policy-setting ministries and security services
2. Promoting the role of the Central Bureau of Statistics in collecting relevant data and indicators within the national system, thus enhancing the localization of the decision and dealing with the issues that affect it as a national priority issue.

Challenge 3: poor coordination between the members of the committee and between government institutions and specialized ministries

Recommendations of HNC members and the relevant Ministries :

1. To consider a mechanism for coordination and follow-up with governmental and non-governmental bodies that are not necessarily members of the HNC to address the issues pertaining to violations against Palestinian women and girls, including embassies and diplomatic missions, international institutions, service and policy-making ministries in addition to a coalition of human rights organizations in Palestine
2. Increasing meetings, the exchange of information and seeking opportunities to fully invest in the membership of specialized ministries (such as the participation of the Ministry of Information in activities related to accountability and investment in the international media) and the formation of specialized committees and clear implementation plans with defining roles

Strategic Objective Three: To promote the participation of Palestinian women in decision-making processes at the local and international levels

Within the context of the central role given by UN Resolution 1325 to women's participation in decision-making on issues of peace and security, urging Member States to ensure greater representation of women at all levels of decision-making in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution and at all levels of decision-making in conflict resolution and peacemaking processes, the NAP launched a set of policies aimed at developing and increasing the representation of women, particularly at the leadership level in governmental and non-governmental institutions. This is in addition to enhancing the role of women in maintaining civic peace given that women are among the most affected by the political division between the Gaza Strip and West Bank, besides increasing the opportunity for women to participate in Palestinian national reconciliation in order to reduce violations, especially violence against Palestinian women resulting from direct violence or through negative coping strategies such as early marriage.

It should be noted here that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women expresses more broadly and explicitly the criteria for the participation of women in various fields, including decision-making positions. Questions about the feasibility of investing in both decisions in terms of women's participation in decision-making processes are raised.

Facts based on impact indicators

1. Percentage of women in the Legislative Council is 12.1%

2. Women constitute an average of 20% of the members of the General Secretariat of factions and political parties²¹.

3. The participation of women in the 2018 Palestinian National Council was 11.6%, membership in the Executive Committee is 0.067% and the Central Council it is 0.05%; in trade unions, women's participation did not change significantly since 2016, which was an average of 21.5%²².

4. According to the Employee Affairs Office, the percentage of women in senior management positions increased from 11% to 13% by mid-2018.

5. The percentage of women in the judiciary in the West Bank fell to 15.5% in 2017 and 2018 and to 20% in the Public Prosecution in 2018²³.

6. The percentage of women ambassadors representing the State of Palestine increased to about 8% in 2017-2018

7. There is only one Palestinian woman in the negotiations committee

²¹ According to previous studies²⁰, women constitute about 25% of Fatah, 33% of its Revolutionary Council and 40% of its Higher Committee, while women in the Popular Front comprise 10% of the Central Committee; they form 19.5% of the DFLP's Central Committee in the West Bank and 16.5% of its Central Committee in the Gaza Strip; and in "Fida" women constitute 30% of the Executive Office and 19% of the Central Committee. Hamas has no specific percentages of women's participation in its various bodies.

²² According to the PCBS report "Men and Women" with the knowledge that trade unions, according to the index, are only associated with the unions under the umbrella of the PLO.

²³ Judiciary Collection 2017 – 2018,

Outputs completed in 2017-2018:

- Palestinian civil society, including members of the HNC, raised at least four memos and petitions to the government on women's participation. These included the participation of women in the PLO, Palestinian national reconciliation committees and national dialogues in Cairo, on freedom of expression and the results of the National Convention.
- Civil society organizations members of the HNC prepared five studies on women's participation in decision-making positions, focusing on the participation of women in the PLO, the experience of transformational leadership and local councils, women's political participation, models of parliaments, and the experience of women in negotiations.
- To promote civic peace, civil society organizations organized at least 179 national meetings in the West Bank and Gaza on women's participation in local council elections, the concept of citizenship, decision-making mechanisms and issues.
- In response to pressure from civil society, the number of women participating in reconciliation committees increased to four.
- In order to build the capacity of young leaders from political party bases in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in areas of civic peace building, leadership, conflict resolution and initiative, civil society organizations conducted at least 10 training courses targeting 225 male and female trainees.
- 12.4% of Palestinian student councils members in West Bank universities are females.
- Civil society organizations participated in at least six campaigns aimed at increasing the participation of women in decision-making at the national level. The campaigns focused on participation in local councils, reconciliation committees, the right to adequate housing, ending the division, breaking the silence (participation of Palestinian refugee women), with the participation of at least 2,400 people from local communities, civil society and decision makers.

Planned outputs which have yet to be initiated by HNC members:

- Forming a media coalition for media institutions and women's media organizations.
- Review of the curricula with consideration to gender, especially the elimination of discrimination against women and the importance of their role in civic peace.
- Promoting the participation of Palestinian women in decision-making at the international level.
- Carrying out an annual media campaign targeting 50% of decision-makers.
- Organizing central rallies to lobby for women's participation in decision-making processes.

The main challenges in achieving the outputs of the third strategic objective on promoting the participation of women in international and international decision-making, and recommendations for overcoming them:

Challenge 1: the gap between decisions taken by the Palestinian government and PLO factions on increasing the participation of women and implementation of these decisions on the ground

Recommendations of HNC members:

1. To continue to raise the issues of women's participation and pressure towards implementing the relevant resolutions, including decisions on the women's quota and its implementation; also working through the women's movement with members of political factions to develop an affiliation with women's issues within the party /faction and to separate between party loyalty (and the consequent rooting of masculine parties) and loyalty to women's issues.
2. To continue to build the capacity of women and young people in leadership and decision-making, and promote awareness and initiative towards political and civic participation, including dissemination of knowledge on the role of women in security and peace issues at various grassroots levels.



Challenge 2: the continued division and weakening of legislative bodies

Recommendations of HNC members

1. Continued pressure to end the division, through representatives of the government and civil sector and promotion of the implementation of the resolution.
- 2 - Pressure to hold legislative elections; prepare Palestinian women to participate, and revive the participation of members of the Committee from both the public and civil sectors in the lobbying process.

Recommendations of the advisory

The recruitment of gender units in the public sector to monitor and document the impact of the division on Palestinian women and girls and activate the role of these units in order to serve women's issues more confidently at the ministry level



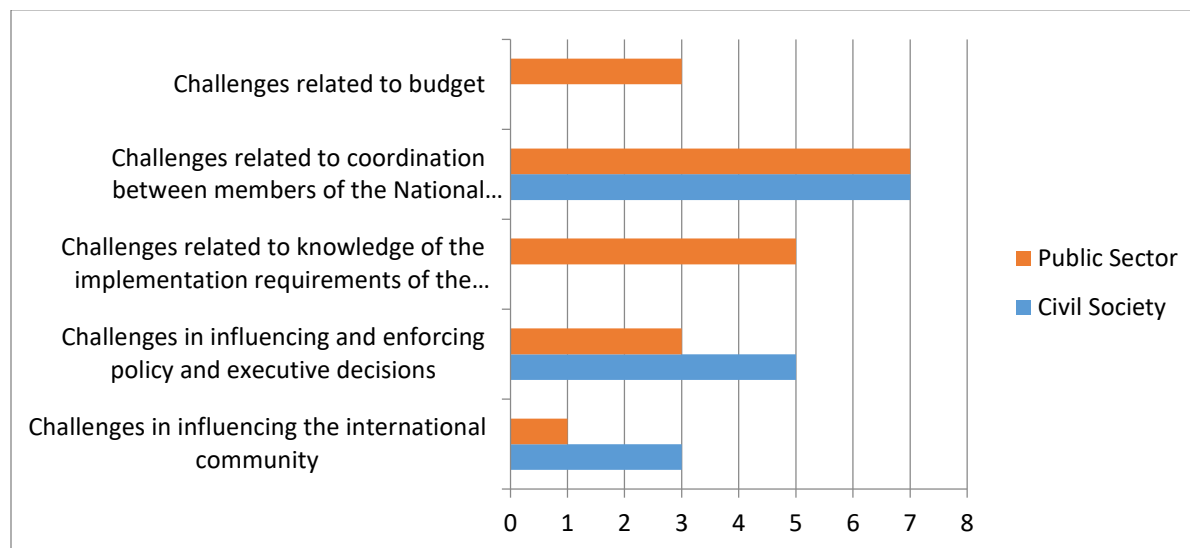
Challenge 3: limited coordination between HNC members

Recommendations of HNC members and Ministries :

1. To shift away from the implementation of individual tasks and discuss the opportunities of forming specialized subcommittees with clear implementation plans, which would include members from public and private sector institutions to identify the roles of the subcommittees and level of coordination required. For example, promoting the role of the Ministry of Justice in the development of policies and legislation pertaining to the political participation of women and pressure to implement them.
2. Inviting the specialized ministries, institutions and civil society coalitions who are not members of the Committee to participate in periodic meetings; to increase the frequency of meetings and exchange of information

General challenges to the implementation of the plan:

Throughout the process of monitoring the achievements, a number of general challenges to the implementation of the plan were highlighted by HNC members and noted by the evaluator. These are distributed in the diagram below according to the party that indicated to the type of challenge:



This is in addition to the challenges associated with follow-up, monitoring and data availability, which were referred to by 90% of the members during individual meetings and noted by the advisor.

General recommendations of HNC members:

- To review the feasibility of investing in the implementation of UN Resolution 1325 in favor of Palestinian women, as opposed to other binding resolutions and treaties on the Israeli occupation given that the application of the resolution requires the commitment of all stakeholders, which does not apply to the Israeli occupation, since it has yet to declare its commitment to the resolution; examining the chances of pressuring the international community to adopt the resolution is considered to be a pivotal approach for benefiting from the resolution in reducing violations against Palestinian women and girls.
- Reviving the role of the rapporteur in coordination between the members of the committee and senior-level decision makers. At least 70% of committee members considered the role of the rapporteur as still being weak in terms of coordination and communication between members, and in pushing to adopt issues addressed by the resolution and the National Plan in coordination with the members of the Committee.
- Increasing the role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in coordination with the Ministry of Information in international advocacy, including directing the international media towards the issues of Palestinian women and girls pertaining to Israeli violations and pressing the Palestinian government to adopt firmer positions towards accountability of the occupation, despite funding concerns.
- Increased provision of the names of Palestinian women to UN agencies to include them in the functions of the various UN bodies and at senior levels.

Additional general recommendations of the advisory on the organization of the plan and promoting its localization:

- Reviewing the plan and developing a theory of change in order to promote the congruence of the expected outputs with the strategic objectives stipulated in the plan. A gap was previously noted in the report regarding the extent to which the planned outputs can contribute to achieving the strategic objectives.
- Reviewing the plan from the perspective of its ability to localize the resolution at the public and private sector, and integrating the objectives of the plan within the strategies of the relevant ministries, considering it as a long-term approach in line with the national policy agenda.
- Institutionalization of the policies presented by the plan to improve the opportunities of Palestinian women and girls exposed to Israeli violations, for example by the Ministry of Economy, Public Works and Labor; to press for holding accountable civil servants who are not committed to national decisions pertaining to the implementation of the resolution and the NAP.