



W The Suzanne Mubarak
omen's International
Peace Movement

*" "The Road to United Nations
Security Council Resolution 1325 "*

*Women, Peace and Security
Future Perspectives*

May 25,2004

PRESS RELEASE

Cairo Egypt, May 25, 2004 - Egypt's First Lady Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak will deliver the opening address at the two-day Regional Workshop entitled "*The Road to United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 – Women, Peace and Security – Future Perspectives*" organized by The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement, the Workshop will be held in Cairo on May 29th-30th, 2004 to discuss ways to place Arab women at the center of peace and human security dialogue.

The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement was founded on the principle that women can and should be more visibly represented in all aspects of peace building because their participation has been proven to enhance the outcome. According to H.E. Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak, founder and chair of The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement, "our primary responsibility is to raise awareness of the importance of women's wider participation in preventing violence, resolving conflicts, and creating conditions conducive to peace and its consolidation."

The Movement will begin its awareness raising initiative through a series of workshops at the regional level. More than 60 representatives from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunis, United Arab Emirates and Yemen will be inspired to join forces and to think regionally. The workshop will feature several prominent international speakers and experts in the fields of women and peace from the region. These include **Dr. Haifa Abu Ghazala** - Regional Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), **Dr. Wadouda Badran**, Director, Arab Women Organization, **Ms. Salwa Hdeib**, Head of the Department of Women's Affairs in Palestine, on behalf of **H.E Zahira Kamal**, Palestinian Minister for Women's Affairs, **Dr. Dekha Ibrahim Abdi**, the Coalition of Peace in Africa (COPA) in Kenya, and **Ms. Zana Al Rawandozi**, Director of Human Resources Department, Iraqi Ministry of Planning, **Ms. Asha Hagi Elmi**, Save the Somali Women and Children, **Ms. Hoda Imam**, Jerusalem- Palestinian Center for Women, **Ms. Kareema Muhsin**, World Food Programme in Iraq and **Ms. Ancil Adrian-Paul**, Manager of Gender and Peace-Building Programme, International Alert in United Kingdom. They will be telling stories about their difficult but successful attempts at bringing women to the peace table. Through the participation of internationally acclaimed speakers like these, the sessions will enhance the cultural exchange and understanding of women, on peace and security issues.

Since the United Nations Security Resolution 1325 (2000) is internationally recognized as an important milestone and legal framework for increased participation by women in peace-building, the workshop will focus on detailed discussions of UNSC1325's provisions, as well as the sharing of first-hand experiences of its successful implementation and how it can be applied regionally. *This meeting is unique in that it will be the first internationally collaborative symposium on UNSC1325 to be initiated from within the Arab world.*

Through plenary and working sessions, participants will build a strong network, collaborating on the common goal of promoting women's role in peace building. Sharing success stories and constructive brainstorming will inspire the participants to multiply their efforts, each in her own country, to educate and empower women to work together for peace.

The Regional Workshop has been organized by The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement, with the support of the United Nations Women's Fund (UNIFEM), the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP), the Center of Arab Women For Training and Research (CAWTAR) and the World Bank. *For further information, visit website:*

www.womenforpeaceinternational.org