

### **CHAPTER III**

## **WOMEN'S ROLE WITHIN CONFLICT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

In this chapter, the author will discuss how women play a role in the Liberia Civil War. It is already known that women have one role that accidentally occurs to them, namely as a victim in every occurrence of a conflict. The woman who is amid the Liberia conflict also experiences the role of a victim. For this reason, in this section, the author will explain the role of women in Liberia can have a role as an agent of change and involved in conflict resolution based on the UN security council resolution 1325 which regulates that women can participate in global peace.

### **A. Women as Victim in the Conflict**

In every conflict that has been or is ongoing must always harm the State both in terms of facilities, and detrimental to the community, especially for women. In this case, women are always the ones who experience considerable losses if viewed from various aspects. Women not only suffer losses in material terms but also experience physical and psychological harm. Most women who are victims or are amid a conflict experience various kinds of violence committed both from the internal parties of the conflict as well as from various parties involved.

The role of women in this conflict situation is indeed very minimal, and the majority tends to lead to the negative side of the conflict. The majority of women who are in a conflict area are victimized both by their opponents and their parties. Since ancient times, women have often been used as a "tool" of satisfaction for the warring parties. Usually, they make these women satisfy their desires. In this case, it is because of the weak protection of crime against women that it is difficult for various parties to save the victims of women. Besides, space for women to move in a conflict is also increasingly limited by the various norms and traditions adopted by the different groups or countries. Because of this, the number of victims of war who are women is far more than men.

Women in this conflict were victims of the majority who received a great deal of ill-treatment by their opponents. In this conflict women often become parties who accept various violence committed by the opposing party. Some of the things experienced by women included physical violence, kidnapping, and the occurrence of rape by other ethnic groups who were their opponents in the conflict. Various factors have become the background of why women ultimately always become the majority of victims in the conflict. One of the factors is the difference in behavior based on gender. According to Mansour Fakih through his book *Gender Analysis and Social Transformation*, gender is a trait that has been inherent in both women and men because of the formation of social and cultural construction (Fakih, 1999). Through this understanding, people often categorize differences between women and men, such as women who are identical with weakness and helplessness while men are constructed as strong and courageous figures. This is embedded in the perceptions of most people and ultimately gives a loss to some parties, especially women.

In line with what is experienced by various women in one conflict area, the same thing was experienced by Liberian women who often became victims of various violence include sexual violence. Since decades ago or since the first day of the conflict women and children are the various parties which most directly affected by the conflict. The women there experienced torture both to their physical torture and in the form of sexual violence such as rape. The violence experienced by the Liberian people seems indiscriminate; both women and men experience the same thing. It is just that the type of violence that befell women tends towards gender-based violence. This violence resulted in women experiencing various kinds of sexual harassment from parties who conflicted, not seeing when women were underage or even had husbands.

Women in Liberia experienced many human rights violations during the conflict, including forced labor, murder, torture, and beatings. During the fourteen years of civil war in Liberia, there have been increasing cases of violence against women in various forms, especially sexual violence. Cases of

sexual violence against Liberian women were very high during the conflict (Dulce Foster, 2009). Studies conducted by the Ministry of Gender and Development, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and the World Health Organization in 10 out of 15 counties with a sample of 2858 women and girls in Liberia indicate that rape accounted for 73.9 percent of cases of sexual violence of those sampled during the year of the civil war, with members of the fighting forces viewed as the main perpetrators (Popovic, 2009).

Systematically war troops use rape and other forms of sexual violence to destroy social taboos in Liberia. In particular, civilians were forced and threatened to violate sexual norms regarding age and family by combatants. Young men are forced to rape their mothers and grandmothers. Men are forced to have sex with their sisters. In addition to causing torture to victims who are forced to have sexual relations, this war has a long-term impact because it destroys family ties. Other crimes committed by perpetrators are violating social taboos by forcing people to commit sexual acts in public (Dulce Foster, 2009). The United Nations report describes how sexual violence in the hands of all combat forces takes place in private and public spaces that are often carried out in front of community members and families (Pamela Scully, 2013). The statement giver reported that men were forced to have sex with women in front of their children and other family members. Men were also forced to watch when rebel forces brutally raped their wives, daughters and other family members. Such mental destruction is another torture tool carried out by rebel forces systematically and deliberately to make more fatal damage than to kill civilians (Dulce Foster, 2009).

During Liberia's civil war researchers and organizations discovered a social phenomenon that Liberian women made transactional sex or "survive" as a common thing. Anthropologists and Liberian scholars Mats Utas noted in the *Anthropological Quarterly* that women must "provide sexual assistance only to pass checkpoints, greatly limiting their ability to travel." Some Liberian women deliberately engage in sexual relations with fighters to obtain food, get protection because of

insecurity from the atmosphere of war, the minimal source of income, and the limited ability of men to work during war according to the United Nations Report in 2011 (Pamela Scully, 2013). Other losses suffered by some Liberian women are forced to act as "bush wives" from the attackers. The role of "bush wife" is that they are forced to cook, clean, give birth to children, use drugs, and give sex to the rebels during the conflict (Dulce Foster, 2009).

The Truth and Reconciliation Commissions for Liberia (TRC) report found a crime committed by rebel forces when the conflict occurred was forcing women to witness or assist in killing their husbands and then eating part of their husbands' body and based on testimony about the forced cannibalism TRC described that many women are forced to eat the meat of their husbands or children as punishment (Pamela Scully, 2013).

The civil war that occurred in Liberia destroyed the community and community cohesion. There are disruptions and rejections of education and health services for many survivors. Children are indoctrinated to commit violence, which leads to moral decadence. There has been an increase in the level of sexual and gender-based violence during the conflict. As a result of the harsh and inhumane treatment carried out by fighters against women in Liberia resulted in women suffering physically and mentally. Only a few women have access to appropriate health care, especially where long-term care is needed. Many Liberian women are widowed or abandoned by their husbands, women have full responsibility for their children, and some women have to give birth to children as a result of rape during the conflict. These things are very troublesome and embarrassing for women (Hellen Liebling-Kalifani, 2011).

Based on reports according to Save the Children and the UNHCR commission which highlighted the health effects of sexual violence during the Liberian civil war suffered by women as victims of acts of sexual violence including sexually transmitted infections, fistulas, and unwanted pregnancies (Pamela Scully, 2013). Based on an analysis of the results of interviews with victims of sexual violence, the study found data that the nature of sexual torture experienced by women in

Liberia had a severe effect on damaging their sexual and reproductive health. As a result of the fighters having objects that are forcibly inserted into the vagina often get traumatic vesicles or rectal-vaginal fistulas. The level of sexual abuse increases the prevalence of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV / AIDS. Liberia's official HIV / AIDS prevalence among women is 1.5 percent. Women survivors report their most common reproductive health problems are; abnormal vaginal bleeding, abnormal vaginal discharge, infertility, leaky urine, and chronic abdominal pain. Although sexual violence is a common occurrence during conflicts, unwanted pregnancies are rarely reported most likely not reported due to fear of the stigma attached to them by the community and feeling ashamed of being a victim (Hellen Liebling-Kalifani, 2011).

However, it turns out that behind all this, women can play a role in becoming agents of change in a conflict or problem. For this reason, the author will discuss in the next section.

## **B. Women as Agent of Change**

Behind his position which is often a victim of the occurrence of a conflict in an area, women are also able to become agents of peace for both parties involved in the conflict. Women can be a party that can create peace between warring parties. This is because women have a way of thinking and a different way of making decisions with men. Women are considered more capable of running soft power strategies than men. Women with all their thoughts accompanied by being gentle can minimize conflicts and realize conflict resolution. One example of how the role of women in a conflict resolution or the role of women as bearers of change can be taken from the case of Liberia Civil War 1989-2003 which is located in Liberia.

The role of women as agents of change in a conflict until now is still considered one eye by several parties. Many parties doubt the ability of women to deal with a conflict, but not infrequently some parties support the actions of these women to participate in contributing to creating peace. The existence of several supporting factors determines whether these women can channel their aspirations and thoughts to end the conflict, as well

as the political role that can support these women in facilitating their mission as agents of change in a conflict.

If associated with the Liberia case, women in these conflict areas generally become victims who experience sexual violence. The role of women as agents of change has not been so striking and is still dominated by various data which stated that women only act as victims in this conflict. However, it turns out there are some parties, both individuals and activist groups who have been or are fighting for the rights of these Liberian women. As an example in terms of individual peace activist is Leymah Gbowee.

Leymah Roberta Gbowee is a Liberian peace activist, social worker, and women's rights advocate. She is the founder and President of the Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa, based in Monrovia. Leymah is best known for leading nonviolent movement that brought together Christian and Muslim women to play a pivotal role in ending Liberia's devastating, fourteen-year civil war in 2003 (Rashed, 2013). Through Leymah's leadership, thousands of women staged pray-ins and nonviolent protests demanding reconciliation and the resuscitation of high-level peace talks (Initiative, 2013). This historic achievement marked the vanguard of a new wave of women emerging worldwide as essential and uniquely useful participants in brokering lasting peace and security. Leymah Gbowee came to believe in women's responsibility to the next generation to work proactively to restore peace, and she became a founding member and Liberia coordinator of the Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) (Rashed, 2013).

Besides Leymah Gbowee, the author found another third party as an agent of change in the conflict in Liberia. Liberia Women Initiative (LWI) is one organization that also has an essential role as the agent of change in Liberia. LWI as an organization was established in response to a continuous deadlock in the peace process against Liberia's civil war in 1994. The whole peace movement in Liberia during the conflict began with the formation of LWI. Initially, the activities of LWI as a non-governmental organization focused on mediation and

networking. LWI has a goal to build bridges to critical stakeholders in the Liberian civil war as a way to influence the occurrence of the peace process. LWI collaborated and consulted widely with all sectors of the female population, managing the focus on the principle of disarmament requests before the peaceful elections and resolutions of the Liberian crisis. LWI also joined the Inter-Religious Council, the Council of Presidents and the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission in many peace efforts. In activities with these organizations, LWI participated in the action of staying at home in 1995 and 1996. The act of staying home as an initiative from the women's organization was successful and known as the "ghost city action" stopped business activities in the City of Monrovia. This very successful event not only provides an emotional foundation that encourages women activists to peace to continue their work, but they also encourage increased solidarity between LWI and other civil society organizations. The Liberia Women's Initiative garnered high credibility in 1997. LWI has made many efforts to gain recognition at the Accra and Abuja meetings which in the end LWI succeeded in laying the foundation for greater recognition of their peace-building efforts (Massaquoi, 2007).

Another activist group which has an essential role during the war in Liberia is the Association of Female Liberian Lawyers (AFELL). It is an organization of female lawyers based in Monrovia, is on a mission to educate and represent women in the entire country. Founded during the first civil war (1989-1996), AFELL grew in prominence during the second conflict, which lasted from 1999 to 2003 (Team W. E., 2007). AFELL specifically focuses on rape cases because rape is a common practice among soldiers during wartime. The Center for Abused Girls and Women collaborate with AFELL to document the experiences of women as victims of the Liberian war during the war years. AFELL plays a vital role in helping women solve the taboos that exist in society and representing victims of rape cases in court against their rapists. In 2000 when AFELL obtained the right to sue a rape case was a significant achievement from AFELL while previously only state lawyers were allowed to sue rape cases. AFELL can then influence legislation in drafting new

laws that increase penalties related to rape. Through its legal aid clinic in the city of Monrovia, AFELL works very closely with women. At the Legal Aid Clinic, lawyers provide daily advice to women victims of rape as gender violence. AFELL works not only to assist in rape cases but they also willing to handle war crimes cases, battles in the field of inheritance rights and customary law (Knufken, 2011).

Besides LWI and AFELL, there is two women movement which formed as a regional organization in Africa, i.e. The Mano River Women's Peace Network (MARWOPNET) and Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET). The Mano River Women's Peace Network is an NGO with headquarters in Freetown, Sierra Leone, that promotes peace and development in the Mano River region (Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea). MARWOPNET was formed under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in May 2000. Established by, a group of women leaders from local NGOs met in Nigeria to promote their participation in the process of managing conflict and restoring peace in Africa, and specifically in the Mano River Region (Team T. I., 2011).

MARWOPNET is motivated by the fact that women and children are victims that are disproportionate by the violent conflicts that occur in Liberia and encourage women to be part of the decision-making process that can prevent this from happening. MARWOPNET has gained the trust of the regional community as an agent for peaceful negotiations. Women on this network have demonstrated their ability to be able to influence government procedures and policy decisions in the Mano River Region and beyond. Effective use of a decentralized structure has enabled its members to organize throughout the region to build mass networks. The strategy of MARWOPNET is to have a significant influence on men in positions that range from heads of state to members of society and families. MARWOPNET has been organizing effectively in all ethnic, class and gender divisions using both forms of individual leadership and sharing. Through their role in advocacy and being involved in negotiations for the peace settlement in 2002 by having three



leaders, respectively Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea as a form of success achieved by MARWOPNET (Johnson, 2011).

Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) is a women association present in several countries of West Africa (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria) and formally set up in 2002 as the Liberian chapter of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), an umbrella group for grassroots organizations involved in Peacebuilding (Zanker, 2018). In the Peace Building process women in Liberia have an essential role and at the same time play a role in building a society as a whole. WIPNET began its movement as a peace agent from the beginning of the First Liberian Civil War, organizing a march for peace and security from 1991 and attending a peace conference from 1993. The culmination of WIPNET activities in pursuing peace was during the second Liberian civil war. WIPNET female members managed to meet Charles Taylor and after long talks to convince him to meet with rebel forces. When the 2003 Comprehensive Peace Agreement was signed by those who played a role in the war, WIPNET changed its movement activities from resolving conflicts to building peace in Liberia. Women as agents of peace are an exciting example of the strength of women. Through WIPNET it can be found how the power of women's movements greatly influenced the peace-building process in Liberia even though the women were excluded from the disarmament process and women went alone to the combat camp to convince fighters to leave their weapons. During the general election campaign in 2005 women from WIPNET launched a registration campaign because there were many unregistered women to vote in general elections (Parajon, 2011).

From the various explanations above, women turned out to have two roles in the occurrence of conflict, namely as victims and as agents of change. One example of violence experienced by women is gender-based violence or better known as Sexual Gender Based Violence. During the Liberia Civil War, there are hundreds of thousands to millions of people who are displaced, and the majority of them are female.

However, behind the role of women as victims, women were also able to show their role as agents of change. One

example of the role of women as agents of change especially in the conflict in Liberia was carried out by Leymah Gbowee, LWI, AFELL, MARWOPNET, and WIPNET Organization. They are carried out various criticisms of the Liberia government to quickly carry out the peace process so that no more victims fell, especially women as the majority of victims. Besides, as the agent of change women in Liberia refuse to use violence and promoting peace to society through national or regional women movement organizations. With the various real work that has been done and the hard work to achieve peace by the women peace activist in Liberia proving that women in Liberia can become agents of change with women as the main actors. Leymah Gbowee, LWI, AFELL, MARWOPNET, and WIPNET activities are in line with the objectives of the United Nation Security Council Resolution 1325 issued by the United Nations which is about women's participation in peace and conflict resolution.

### **C. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325**

The United Nations Security Council is one part of the United Nations which deals with or which focuses on international security issues. The Security Council has five countries which are permanent members and several countries that are non-permanent members are selected based on voting and carried out by all members of the National Examination. These permanent members of the UNSC include China, France, Britain, and the United States. In addition to the five members above, there are ten non-permanent members in the UNSC which have a term of office of two years.

The ten members of the Security Council have consist of 5 members from Asia or Africa, two members from Latin America, a member from Eastern Europe and two members from Western Europe and other state members of the Security Council include as the Non-Permanent members. The purpose of this division is to realize justice for all UN member countries in order to become part of the Security Council and contribute to spilling their minds in maintaining regional and international peace and security.

Non-permanent members who have successfully joined the Security Council certainly have specific purposes and objectives. This country seeks to enter and become a non-permanent member in addition to realizing international aspirations in the field of security as well as an opportunity for these countries to raise issues that exist within their country. This is done in order to realize the national interests of the country and the prestige of other countries. Nominations from countries that want to join as members of the non-permanent council have even been announced to various other countries for several years before the election.

The Security Council is given some authority written in the UN charter which consists of investigating any situation that would threaten world peace, recommending peaceful dispute resolution procedures, asking all members of the UN to break good relations in terms of economy, sea, air, post, communication radio and diplomatic relations and implementing the Security Council's decision whether in the form of the military or various other means.

As a part of the United Nations that handles international security issues, UNSC routinely issues a document called UNSCR or the United Nations Security Council Resolution. This resolution is a product issued by the Security Council as part of the United Nations designed to handle various security cases. Also, the resolution issued by the Security Council is the response of the world represented by the National Examination in responding to the problems that are happening and are hotly discussed by the international community.

The first resolution issued by the Security Council began in 1946 which aimed to save the next generation from various disasters involving armed conflict. For this reason, the Security Council made a resolution aimed at the Military Staff Committee. The Security Council made this resolution in response to criticism from speakers who said the council had an active role and was responsible for global security. For this reason, the drafting of the Military Staff Committee was the first meeting of members of the Security Council in that year.

One or more board members make a draft that will later become a Security Council resolution and circulated privately to other members. The draft can be negotiated or changed through a process called the consultation process. If all members approve a draft, then the draft resolution is officially proposed to the Security Council. Decisions which are often referred to by the Security Council as a substantive problem require a majority of votes to be able to pass the stage above. Each member of the Security Council has one vote to determine whether they agree to a draft resolution or choose to abstain.

In addition to those rules above, each permanent member is also equipped with veto rights. It is mean that, if one of the permanent members of the Security Council uses his voice to reject a resolution, the resolution cannot be passed. However, a resolution can be passed if a member still chooses to abstain from a vote. The general refusal to use this veto followed the end of the cold war to help Security Council members make more effective decisions.

The purpose of the establishment of the Security Council is to prevent armed conflict and ensure global security. However, if a conflict has broken to the surface, the first objective that must be carried out by this Security Council is to seek a diplomatic solution for both parties. Furthermore, if the conflict continues, the Security Council can function to mobilize peacekeeping forces at the time of the conflict. Besides, they can order UN member states to provide and impose sanctions on those who are masterminds to a conflict. The last attempt that can be made if the various functions above do not reach the meeting point is to ratify military action against the aggressor.

Besides having the objectives as above, the Security Council also has several primary functions. One function of the Security Council is to help resolve disputes that occur between several groups peacefully. Furthermore, the Security Council also has a function to establish and regulate UN security guards as well as take individual steps against the State or various parties that do not comply with the rules that have been decided by the Security Council. Based on Chapter IV of the Charter of the United Nations when deemed necessary, the Security

Council must call the parties concerned in a dispute to resolve the issue peacefully in various ways such as negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and even into the court stage.

UN Security Council Resolution 1325 is the one resolution that created by UNSC to announce the integral role by women in the peace process. This resolution was inaugurated by UNSC which was also part of the UN tasked with maintaining peace throughout the world in 2000. Through this resolution, the official international community recognized the role of UNSC, in response to changes in the meaning of warfare, where targets were increasingly focused on citizen civilians and women who are consistently not involved in the peace process.

UNSCR 1325 can be created due to hard work both from civil society and UN member states. Before it was officially adopted as a resolution, several major global conferences and several policy frameworks were successfully fought. This effort was made to try to advance the rights of women and children. The United Nations held a world conference in order to improve gender equality in the global arena for the first time in 1975. Furthermore, in 1995 the United Nations again held a Fourth World Conference which again discussed women. In this conference, the UN succeeded in producing a Beijing Declaration and Platform which aimed to promote the role of women in matters of peace.

Although, the United Nations has created various types of actions in terms of increasing the role of women in various fields and eliminating the negative public stigma of women's previous roles, there are still many rejections by various parties and general widespread gender recognition in various reports assigned directly by The United Nations especially in matters of peace. The Coalition for Women and International Peace and Security or the International Peace and Security was officially formed as a response and became the main lobbying force in the formation of UNSCR 1325.

The Women's Coalition is the main gateway for the creation of UNSCR 1325, and this was evident when in 2000 the efforts of the coalition finally came to fruition when the Namibian State held the Security Council Presidency and

conducted an open session discussing Women, Peace, and Security. During this session, the UN Security Council acknowledged the nature of the war, where civilians were increasingly targeted, which was contrary to the rules of war. The UN also said that if women continue to be excluded from their involvement in carrying out the peace process. Through the points above, various opinions continue to flow which as the session progresses increasingly leads to the formation of UNSCR 1325 (Peace, 2015).

On October 31, 2000, the official Security Council adopted resolution 1325 which focused on women, peace, and security which had previously been discussed in the Presidential Statement on March 8 of the same year. This resolution is a series of resolutions made by the Council which also focus on children, armed conflict, protection of civilians in armed conflict and the handling of armed conflict itself. On October 24 and 25, the Security Council held an open discussion discussing women, peace, and security which was attended by 40 member countries who agreed to the statement that they supported mainstreaming efforts in a gender perspective in terms of supporting peace operations and the participation of women in all aspects of the peace process.

This discussion was a discussion held after the Arria Formula meeting which was held earlier on October 23 on the same agenda, namely women, peace and security. This provides an opportunity for the Security Council member countries to discuss the effects of this armed conflict on women, the role of women in various peace processes with various NGO representatives of women from Guatemala, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and Zambia. They represent the experiences of women and girls especially those who have or are in situations of armed conflict. Besides, this NGO also represents ways to attract the attention of the grassroots women's movement to jointly commit in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, to spread peace, security and sustainable development.

In UNSCR 1325 there are very crucial things which are presented in the three main concepts, namely protection, representation and participation which will open the path of

women's empowerment as biological categorical. Protection as one of the main objectives of UNSCR 1325 explains that common gender discourse is discussed in UNSCR 1325 and some related resolutions. Closely related to the purpose of this protection is the logic of identity or traits that are firmly attached to women as fragile, passive, and potential victims of an event in a region which results in making women as one of the beneficiaries and care from others.

The parties involved in an armed conflict are encouraged to take various individual steps in protecting women and children from gender-based violence and the conceptualization of women as a group with special needs. This is related to statements contained in the work of several feminist historians. They consider the reasoning power of a resolution to be able to contribute to strengthening and improving the image of women who were previously considered as passive, fragile and need more protection.

One historian demonstrates how a gender construction found in UNSCR 1325 is mostly synonymous with biological sex, which reloads women's representation as a security subject that echoes the most basic logic. This change in viewpoint or way of thinking towards women, in fact, is not quickly realized throughout the country, for countries and regions that still adhere to patriarchal views or individuals who still believe in patriarchal demeaning women or consider women as such as the above understanding are still considered standard. In resolution 1325 it also reflects how the gender order applies and does not create a split in terms of qualities that appear to be smooth and natural (Selimovic., 2015).

Furthermore, this resolution was explicitly made to discuss how the effects of conflict and warfare for women and girls and recognize the critical role that women can or have made in the peace process and efforts to stop a conflict. UNSCR 1325 emphasizes that peace and security efforts are more sustainable when women become one partner who has an equal position in preventing violence in conflict, sending aid, and in creating absolute peace.

Resolution 1325 is a response from the UNSC to the various conflicts that occurred at that time involving women and children. In this resolution, two main points are discussed. The points are the extraordinary effects caused or caused by conflict, violence, and war which have a direct impact on women and children. Besides, in this resolution, it also discusses other vital roles of women as agents in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peace efforts and also creating peace.

Women's participation and the level of women's involvement in the conflict and creating a conflict resolution are crucial and very important in achieving and maintaining peace and stability in a community. This resolution urges all actors involved in increasing women's participation and incorporating a gender perspective in all UN peace and security efforts. Various parties involved in a conflict are required to take extraordinary steps in efforts to protect women and children from all forms of gender-based violence, particularly in matters of rape and other forms of sexual violence that are very extensive and numerous during the conflict. This is also in line with the four pillars that form the basis of UNSCR 1325.

In this resolution also the UNSC together with 40 members of the UN highlighted various important things regarding bringing this gender perspective to the center of all conflict prevention and resolution, peace-building, peacekeeping, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts carried out by the UN. This resolution also involved the Secretary-General in terms of conducting a study in terms of the effects of the armed conflict, especially on women and children, the role of women in conducting peace-building efforts and the existence of gender dimensions in various peace processes and conflict resolution. The relevant parties prepared the results of the study in response to an invitation given by the Security Council.

UNSCR 1325 has four pillars that form the basis of this resolution and is confirmed. The first is participation, the purpose of this participation is a call intended to increase women's participation in all aspects in making a decision, including at the level of national, regional and international institutions. This level of women's participation includes



prevention, management, and conflict resolution mechanisms. Also, this level of women's participation is also included in peace negotiations, also in peace operations. In the case of peace operations, women can act as soldiers, the police even only as individual citizens or special representatives of the UN secretary-general.

The second is Protection or Protection, and this pillar refers to the protection of women and children from gender-based sexual violence and violence, including in an emergency humanitarian situation such as that which occurs in refugee camps. The third is prevention or prevention, and this aims to improve intervention strategies to prevent violence that occurs against women, including prosecution of those who violate or are responsible for the occurrence of violence which is included in violations of international law. This was done with the aim of strengthening women's rights in national law and supporting peace initiatives and conflict resolution processes carried out by women in a region.

Furthermore, the final pillar is assistance and recovery or relief and recovery aimed at advancing relief and recovery measures to overcome an international crisis through gender glasses. It also includes respecting the nature of civilians and humanity from the side of the refugee camp and designing a refugee camp taking into account the needs of women and children who are displaced in local settlements. The purpose of this pillar is for all women and children to get a comfortable and fulfilled place for all their needs even though they are amid war conditions and refugee camps.

In some conflicts that occur in various countries often civilians are targeted. Also, the use of children to become soldiers, violence against ethnic and religious groups turned out to be It precisely the same as they did with gender-based crimes and sexual violence that was very common. A more specific experience by women and girls is directly related to their status among the community. The Beijing Platform strengthened the statement for Action, which said that when all groups struggle as a consequence of terrorism and armed conflict, women and girls are especially affected because of their status and their sex.

Women are not comfortable with their equality of status compared to men in any environment, where various cultures of violence and discrimination against women and girls first exist compared to the conflicts that often occur today. If women do not participate in a decision-making structure within the community, they are not likely to be included in making any decisions relating to the ongoing conflict or peace process

Resolution 1325 is considered crucial because too often the intensity of women is marginalized in various ways and not at all seen in terms of leadership. Therefore, through the resolution, it wants to change the perspective of the global community on the role of women, not only as a victim but also the role of women as leaders. Besides, we must also see the form of participation carried out by women not only for the good of women but also in the name of global peace and security. A difference in the perspectives of war for women and men is obvious, women provide an essential perspective in terms of conflict analysis and provide a strategy for achieving peace which has a focal point in creating relations between opposing parties and increasing inclusiveness, transparency, and sustainability of the peace process.

Through this resolution, it is hoped that men will listen more and pay attention to opinions from various aspects and various sides, especially from the side of women. Men often ignore various discussions that discuss the inequality of the effects of conflict, especially for women. Peacebuilding hopes to pay attention to how women and men work hand in hand for contributing to better peace and sustainable security. With this in mind, it expected that men could better take into account the level of women's participation, especially in terms of conflict resolution that occurs in a region.

UNSCR 1325 is a global commitment in guaranteeing that women and children are more systematic and sustainable integrity in terms of peace and security. To realize the ideals of the UNSCR 1325, it takes a global spirit in carrying out the resolution. With assistance from the UN, various programs were successfully created and implemented, including the agreement of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict

originating from the Secretary-General and the commitment made by the Secretary-General to ensure that women were at all levels of senior leadership within the UN.

However, there are many implementations from UNSCR 1325 coming from UN member countries. Member countries of the UN use the principle to use the resolution into their actions in terms of development based on National Action Plans (NAP) under the supervision of the government or other national level strategies. The NAP process assists States in identifying priorities and various resources from the State. This helps the government in determining its responsibilities and commitments in making an action.

Since 2007 the framework for the National Action Plan was initiated by the Liberian Government, UNMIL OGA and International Alert. Furthermore, be conceptualized in the conference entitled "Advancing Women's Human Rights in Peace-Building, Recovery, and Development in Liberia" in which 300 women from around the country participated in 2008. The Liberian National Action Plan (LNAP) was developed through a rigorous process of comprehensive consultation involving roundtable discussions, bilateral interviews, and discussions with many key stakeholders. These included Government of Liberia representatives from relevant line ministries, the Women's Legislative Caucus (WLC), local authority structures, rehabilitation institutions, national security agencies, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the Women's Committee and the Liberian Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS). Civil Society stakeholders included representatives from local, community-based and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), media institutions, religious organizations, and others. The Liberian National Action Plan finally be launched at the International Colloquium on Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace and Security on International's Women's Day the 8th of March 2009 (Popovic, 2009).

The Liberian National Action Plan will focus its priority activities and implementation strategy at the community,

national and Mano River Union region levels. Six priority areas have been identified as (Liberia M. o., 2009):

1. Psycho-social support and trauma management for the reconstruction of women's psyche and holistic reintegration and rehabilitation into Liberian society.
2. The protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence and the prevention of all types of violence against them.
3. Women's participation and involvement in shelter, land use, and climate change issues.
4. Women's empowerment for inclusion, participation, and promotion at all levels of Liberian society.
5. Coordination, coherence and capacity building
6. Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of the implementation status and the progress made in realizing the activities set out in the LNAP.

Throughout priority activities above, the national plan for women in Liberia proves a variety of things, that not only realizing international aspirations also realizing gender equality in politics, peace, and security. With the realization of these two things, it proves that gender bias in the national stages which including government and politics is slowly starting to turn towards a positive direction that emphasizes tolerance and openness of the government for women to freely participate and express their thoughts in terms of domestic and global peace.

In this chapter, it has been explained that women often get "roles" as victims of conflict and become parties who have higher losses than men. However, it turns out that in its journey women are also able to become actors in the creation of conflict resolution in a region. Women can become agents of change and peace for a conflict like what happened in Liberia.

In this case, women were able to act individually or within the activist group which had a role in sensitizing women to participate in decision-making and politics. Also, Leymah Gbowee, LWI, AFELL, MARWOPNET, and WIPNET conducted various empowerment activities for women in refuge and education for children. The activity carried Leymah Gbowee, and several groups of women movement were a

reflection of the Security Council Resolution of 1325 issued by the United Nations in 2000. The resolution was made so that women's movement in participating in taking part in peace and change was more flexible than before. This, of course, is inseparable from the role of the political background and education that the woman has.

Seeing the success made by the women in Liberia made the writer have high hopes for the level of participation and role of women in the conflict resolution in the Liberia Civil War. Explanations regarding the participation of women in the Conflict Resolution will be discussed in the next section in this paper.