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Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak reviews woman's role in spreading peace, civil society's actions

Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak held Tuesday 1/7/2008 talks with African first ladies on the sidelines of the African Union summit. The talks took up means of boosting the woman's role in establishing peace and maintaining sustainable security and stability in Africa. The Suzanne Mubarak International Movement of Women for International Peace earlier in the day organized a roundtable for the African first ladies.

Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak welcomed the African first ladies saying the meeting aimed at boosting the human security of the African people and addressing the challenges of globalization. She added that women in the African continent are facing several challenges including poverty, unemployment, violence, crimes and fighting AIDS. African women have a major role in the areas of conflict, Mrs. Mubarak said.

They sponsored reconciliation efforts and cooperation among their societies and helped their torn regions to re-unite and establish mechanisms to prevent further conflicts. Mrs. Mubarak reviewed efforts of the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement in boosting the role of NGOs and civil society organizations. She said that the movement aimed at establishing relations with other partners to achieve peace and security in the region.

Since the UN Security Council's adoption of resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, the movement has been more active promoting the role of women in peace. Mrs Mubarak said the African Union Summit highlighted the leaders' efforts to address several challenges facing women and children in Africa.

The Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings should be enforced by an international plan through the UN General Assembly, Mrs Mubarak added. Mrs. Mubarak hailed the outcome of the sixth meeting of the General Assembly of the Organization of African First Ladies Against AIDS, held in Sharm El-Sheikh on Monday. She also praised African initiatives carried out by African women to help solve African problems.

Mrs. Mubarak called for merging more youth in the activities of the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement. The movement organized a youth forum in Sharm El-Sheikh with more than 800 people attending to exchange ideas on promoting peace, she added.