**A Webinar on the 20th Anniversary of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 at Hekima University College**

On the 21st of October 2020, the Centre for Research, Training and Publication (CRTP) of Hekima University College organized a webinar to discuss the gains made by women in promoting issues of peace and security globally and also at continental, regional and national levels since the adoption of the UNSCR 1325. The key speakers during the commemoration on UNSCR 1325 included Dr. Agnes Abuom who is the Moderator of the World Council of Churches, Dr. Meghan Clark who is an Associate Professor at St. John University, Stella Sabiti who is a FEMWISE (Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation) mediator at the African Union. This was hosted by Dr. Elias Opongo who is the Director of the Centre for Research Training and Publications (CRTP), in collaboration with Hekima Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations (HIPSIR), Hekima University College. The webinar also highlighted the challenges facing women participating internationally in the areas of peace, security and governance. The limited participation of African women in the formal processes of peace, security and governance is a big untapped area of UNSCR 1325 's agenda, particularly at the negotiation table of peace. Through the African Union initiative, the formation of FEMWISE has strengthened the application of commitments to gender inclusion in Africa. FEMWISE has built an all-inclusive and holistic network involving the strengthening and visibility of senior or prominent female mediators and the rich expertise of female mediation experts thus bringing professional women on board to address issues of peace and security. Such positive progress must be lauded and appreciated. Nonetheless, more efforts need to be made in terms of recognizing the efforts of women at the grassroots level. Hence, going forward, it is important to develop an inclusive framework of engaging both the women and men in the conversation of peace and security in order effectively address the gender gaps in peacebuilding activities.