

## **Chapter V**

### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

#### **A. Introduction**

16. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, in making its recommendations, reaffirms the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

17. The Special Committee pays tribute to the men and women who have served and continue to serve in peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage. Particular tribute is due to those who have given their lives for the maintenance of peace and security.

18. The Special Committee reaffirms that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the United Nations, in accordance with the Charter, and affirms that United Nations peacekeeping is one of the key instruments available to the United Nations in discharging that responsibility. The Special Committee, as the only United Nations forum mandated to review comprehensively the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, including measures aimed at enhancing the capacity of the Organization to conduct United Nations peacekeeping operations, is uniquely able to make a significant contribution in the area of issues and policy relating to United Nations peacekeeping operations. It encourages other United Nations bodies, funds and programmes to avail themselves of the Special Committee's particular perspective on United Nations peacekeeping operations. Thus the Special Committee – as subsidiary body of the General Assembly – recalls, that its recommendations and conclusions are first and foremost reflecting its unique peacekeeping expertise.

19. Noting the sustained surge in United Nations peacekeeping efforts in various parts of the world, which requires the participation of Member States in various activities, the Special Committee considers it essential for the United Nations to be able to effectively maintain international peace and security. This calls for, inter alia, an improved capacity to assess conflict situations, effective planning and management of United Nations peacekeeping operations and quick and effective responses to any Security Council mandate.

20. The Special Committee stresses the importance of consistently applying the principles and standards it has set forth for the establishment and conduct of United Nations peacekeeping operations, and emphasizes the need to continue to consider those principles, as well as definitions of peacekeeping, in a systematic fashion. New proposals or conditions concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations should be the subject of a thorough consideration in the Special Committee.

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21. The Special Committee recalls that United Nations peacekeeping is conducted in accordance with the relevant chapters of the Charter of the United Nations. In this regard, nothing in the present report circumscribes the primary responsibility of the Security Council to maintain or restore international peace and security.

## **B. Guiding principles, definition and implementation of mandates**

22. The Special Committee stresses that peacekeeping operations should strictly observe the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter. It emphasizes that respect for the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State is crucial to common efforts, including peacekeeping operations, to promote international peace and security.

23. The Special Committee believes that respect for the basic principles of peacekeeping, such as the consent of the parties, impartiality and the non-use of force except in self-defence and in the defence of a mandate authorized by the Security Council, is essential to its success.

24. The Special Committee recognizes that peacekeeping operations have become more complex and as such a common understanding of terminology is required in order to promote common approaches and cooperation.

25. The Special Committee is of the view that peacekeeping operations should not be used as a substitute for addressing the root causes of conflict. Those causes should be addressed in a coherent, well-planned, coordinated and comprehensive manner, using political, social and developmental instruments. Consideration should be given to ways in which those efforts can continue without interruption after the departure of a peacekeeping operation, so as to ensure a smooth transition to lasting peace and security and development.

26. The Special Committee stresses that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, pursuant to Article 24 of the Charter. The Special Committee notes the statements by the President of the Security Council of 29 December 1998 (S/PRST/1998/38) and 20 February 2001 (S/PRST/2001/5) with regard to the inclusion, as appropriate, of peacebuilding elements in the mandates of peacekeeping operations, with a view to ensuring a smooth transition to a successful post-conflict phase. The Special Committee stresses the importance of those elements being explicitly defined and clearly identified before being incorporated into the mandates of peacekeeping operations, whenever appropriate. The Special Committee emphasizes the role of the General Assembly in the formulation of post-conflict peacebuilding activities.

27. The Special Committee continues to stress the importance of peacekeeping operations being provided with clearly defined mandates, objectives and command structures,

adequate resources based on a realistic assessment of the situation and secure financing, in support of efforts to achieve peaceful solutions to conflicts. It also stresses the need to ensure, in the formulation and implementation of mandates, adequate resources and congruity between mandates, resources and realizable objectives. The Special Committee emphasizes that, when changes are made to an existing mandate, commensurate changes should be made in the resources available to a peacekeeping operation to carry out its new mandate. Changes in the mandate of an ongoing mission should be based on a thorough and timely reassessment by the Security Council in consultation with troop-contributing countries through the mechanisms prescribed in Security Council resolution 1353 (2001) of 13 June 2001 and the note by the President of the Security Council dated 14 January 2002 (S/2002/56).

28. The Special Committee stresses the need to ensure the unity of command of United Nations peacekeeping operations. It recalls that the overall political direction and control of United Nations peacekeeping operations are within the purview of the Security Council.

### **C. Restructuring of peacekeeping**

29. The Special Committee notes that in recent years the number of complex peacekeeping operations has increased and, as a consequence, the Security Council has mandated peacekeeping operations that have included, in addition to the traditional tasks of monitoring and reporting, a number of other activities. In that regard, the Special Committee stresses the importance of an effective Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Field Support that are efficiently structured and adequately staffed.

30. The Special Committee takes note of the report of the Secretary General on the strengthening of the capacity of the UN to manage and sustain Peacekeeping Operations (A/63/702). It is regrettable that Special Committee did not have sufficient time to fully study the content of this report because of the issuance date. Notwithstanding this situation the Special Committee considers the matters outlined in the following paragraphs should be brought to the attention of the Secretariat for action.

31. The Special Committee notes that a number of senior posts within the Department of Field Support are unfilled. The Special Committee recommends urgent action be taken to fill all vacant positions, in both the DFS and the DPKO.

32. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of preserving unity of command in missions at all levels as well as coherence in policy and strategy and clear command structures in the field and up to and including at Headquarters. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure a clear chain of command, accountability, coordination and maintenance of an adequate system of checks and balances. In this regard the Special Committee refers to paragraphs 22 and 27 of the GA resolution 61/279 whereby the GA recalled that the new structure may present some

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major management challenges and stressed that structural changes is no substitute for managerial improvement.

33. The special committee acknowledges the establishments of the seven Integrated Operational Teams (IOT) and stresses that the success of the restructuring hinges upon the principles of unity of command and integration of efforts at all levels, in the field and at headquarters. In this regard, the special committee notes with concern that the IOTS have yet to function effectively and efficiently. The Special Committee requests that urgent attention is given to improving communication links with Member States. Given the Special Committee concerns the Secretary-General is requested to provide a report on implementation of the IOTs before the end of 2009.

#### **D. Safety and security**

34. The Special Committee remains gravely concerned about the precarious security environment prevailing in many peacekeeping missions and, in that context, calls upon the Secretariat to give the utmost priority to enhancing the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel in the field. It condemns, in the strongest terms, the killing of United Nations peacekeeping personnel and all acts of violence against such personnel and recognises that they constitute a major challenge to United Nations field operations. The Special Committee also condemns any forms of restrictions on the freedom of movement of United Nations peacekeeping personnel and assets within the mandate, in particular restrictions to medical evacuation.

35. In particular, the Special Committee condemns, in the strongest terms, targeted attacks against United Nations personnel and all criminal acts against such personnel, including carjacking. It also finds totally unacceptable any attempts to seize or destroy United Nations and contingent-owned property. The Special Committee stresses the importance of fully respecting the obligations relating to the use of vehicles and premises of United Nations peacekeeping personnel as defined by relevant international instruments, as well as the obligations relating to distinctive emblems recognised in the Geneva Convention.

36. The Special Committee urges those States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel and its optional protocol. The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 58/82 of 9 December 2003, in particular its recommendation that key provisions of the Convention, including those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, be included in status-of-forces, status-of-mission and host country agreements negotiated between the United Nations and host countries.

37. The Special Committee takes note of the information provided in the report of the SG on the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee of

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peacekeeping (A/63/615/Add.1 para 15), regarding an effective mechanism for periodic risk analysis in peacekeeping missions and at headquarters. However, the Special Committee reiterates its original request concerning sharing information with TCCs / PCCs and it advocates that a properly planned and mandated mission, encompassing well-trained, equipped and disciplined contingents that are deployed in the context of an ongoing political process, is the best assurance against such risks. In this regard, the Special Committee underlines important roles of the TCCs/PCCs and the UN Secretariat.

38. The Special Committee reiterates its request regarding the involvement of Member States in United Nations boards of inquiry, except for misconduct cases, where relevant memorandums of understanding will apply. The Special Committee requests continuation of the practice of constant communication with concerned Member States whenever there is an incident in a peacekeeping mission that negatively impacts on operational effectiveness or results in serious injury to or the death of United Nations peacekeeping personnel, until conclusion of the investigation of the incident. The Special Committee urges that the findings of boards of inquiry on serious injury or death be immediately shared with the concerned Member States, (including troop-contributing countries,) as appropriate, and that lessons learned from such incidents, and field-risk assessments, be shared with all Member States.

39. The Special Committee notes with concern that some deployed troop formations are being stretched to cover geographic areas that exceed their capacities. Such practices not only threaten the safety and security of these troops, but also adversely affect their performance, discipline and command and control. In this regard, the Special Committee urges that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations ensures that United Nations peacekeeping personnel are deployed in accordance with agreed concepts of operation and deployment arrangements. The redeployment of troops in support of evolving situations should be done with the consent of TCCs.

40. The Special Committee recalls para 46 of its report A/62/19 and reiterates that peacekeeping operations should be adequately manned to ensure within their mandates the safety and security of United Nations personnel. The Special Committee further reiterates its request to the Secretariat to present a thorough policy for screening and verification before hiring local security personnel, which includes, inter alia, background checks on any criminal and human rights violations of the candidates, as well as links to security companies.

41. The Special Committee reiterates its request that clear guidelines and procedures be put in place to facilitate information-sharing regarding safety and security issues as well as security management in peacekeeping operations. In this regard, the Special Committee recalls para 49 of its report A/62/19 and requests that information on the security risk management model being developed by Inter Agency Security Management System be advised to the member states along with the methodology of implementation of the policy issued in May 2008.

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42. The Special Committee notes the progress made towards a wider and systemic use of technology in peacekeeping operations. However, the Special Committee believes further progress is required. In this regard, the Special Committee requests the development of a UN Policy on Monitoring and Surveillance Technology and looks forward to a report on this within six months of the issuance of this committee's findings. The Special Committee believes that due attention should be given to legal, operational, technical and financial considerations and especially the consent of the countries concerned with regard to their application in the field.

43. The Special Committee, bearing in mind the evolution of the security situation in a number of peacekeeping mission, underlines the importance of adequate measures to ensure the safety and security of all individual military and police officers, especially unarmed military observers.

44. The Special Committee notes para 18 of the SG report A/63/615/Add.1 on improving relevant policies and procedures to enhance the existing mechanism in the Secretariat and the field to manage crisis situations in a well-coordinated and effective manner. The Special Committee requests that the joint Standard Operating Procedures on Headquarters response to Crisis management may be made known to the member states as soon as possible and before the next substantive session.

45. The Special Committee underscores the importance it places on the safety and security of peacekeepers in the field and is gravely concerned about the loss of precious human lives as a result of the negligence and incompetence of medical staff. The Special Committee underscores the responsibility of the United Nations to ensure that medical personnel assigned in mission areas are qualified to provide immediate and proper medical attention to peacekeepers and to hold them accountable. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to review, and report back to Member States at the earliest opportunity, its oversight structure and procedures at the Secretariat and in the field to ensure a proper supervision and support of the UN's four levels of medical support to UN missions.

46. The Special Committee takes note of the information provided in the Report of the SG on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping (A/63/615/Add.1, para 10). The Special Committee reiterates its original request that the liaison arrangements of United Nations field operations, which are to maintain contact with the parties concerned, should be improved at appropriate levels, especially tactical and operational levels in the field, so as to establish effective immediate responses to safety and security issues as required.

47. The Special Committee welcomes progress made to date in the development of the Joint Operations Centres (JOC) and Joint Mission Analysis Centres (JMAC) in DPKO-led Field Missions. To further this strand of work, the Special Committee recommends that the Chief of the Peacekeeping Situation Centre, who chairs the newly established DPKO-DFS JOC-JMAC Support Group, oversee further development of these concepts and brief the Special Committee on a bi-annual basis on its outputs. The Special

Committee looks forward to the completion of the draft JMAC guidelines before its regular Session in 2010.

### **E. Conduct and discipline**

48. The Special Committee reaffirms the need to ensure that all personnel in United Nations peacekeeping operations function in a manner that preserves the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations. The Special Committee emphasizes that misconduct is unacceptable and has a detrimental effect on the fulfilment of mandates, in particular with respect to the relations between United Nations peacekeeping personnel and the population of host countries. The prevention of any acts of misconduct and the maintenance of discipline of United Nations peacekeeping personnel is a responsibility of managers and commanders at all levels of United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee emphasizes that the leadership of managers and commanders is vital in the prevention of misconduct.

49. The Special Committee affirms that any kind of misconduct by peacekeeping personnel is detrimental to the missions and to the image of the Organization, and has adverse effects on the population of the host countries. The Special Committee re-emphasizes the principle that the same standards of conduct must be applied to all categories of United Nations peacekeeping personnel without exception. Violations of these standards will result in appropriate action within the authority of the Secretary-General, while criminal and disciplinary responsibility in respect of members of national contingents depends on the national law of the Member State. The Special Committee affirms that all peacekeeping personnel must be informed of and adhere to all applicable rules, regulations, provisions and guidelines provided by the United Nations for peacekeepers, as well as to national laws and regulations. All acts of misconduct should be investigated and punished without delay in accordance with due process of law as well as with memorandums of understanding that have been concluded between the United Nations and member States.

50. The Special Committee reiterates that troop-contributing countries bear the primary responsibility for maintaining discipline among their contingents deployed in peacekeeping missions.

51. The Special Committee requests that the United Nations take appropriate measures to prevent unsubstantiated allegations of misconduct from damaging the credibility of any United Nations peacekeeping missions or troop-contributing countries or United Nations peacekeeping personnel. The Special Committee requests that the United Nations ensure that steps are taken to restore the image and credibility of any United Nations peacekeeping mission or troop-contributing country or United Nations peacekeeping personnel when allegations of misconduct are ultimately found to be legally unproven.

52. The Special Committee reiterates that the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment that prevents sexual exploitation and abuse should be part of the

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performance objectives of managers and commanders involved in United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee encourages managers and commanders to continue to facilitate the investigations within their existing responsibilities. The Special Committee encourages Member States and the Secretariat, including the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, to address the issues of accountability within their respective purviews.

53. The Special Committee welcomes the finalization of work on the revised model memorandum of understanding and urges its expeditious implementation. The Special Committee encourages the Secretary General and relevant Troop Contributing Countries to take the necessary measures to include new provisions on conduct and discipline in all Memorandum of Understandings agreed between the United Nations and Member States, including those signed prior to the adoption by the General Assembly of the Revised Model MOU to include the new provisions on conduct and discipline

54. The Special Committee welcomes the efforts of the Conduct and Discipline Unit at United Nations headquarters and the Conduct and Discipline Teams in the field.

55. The Special Committee takes note of the Secretary-General's report on strengthening investigations (A/62/582) and looks forward to the outcome of the General Assembly deliberations on it.

56. The Special Committee underlines the importance of continued and strengthened efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations. Underlining the importance of eliminating all forms of misconduct, the Special Committee remains concerned about new cases of misconduct reported, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and about the number of outstanding allegations still awaiting investigation, and encourages continued efforts to address this backlog, in accordance, where applicable, with the new model memorandum of understanding. The Special Committee welcomes progress made towards the elimination and prevention of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse. The Special Committee, while noting the continued decline in the number of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse, regrets that the number of the most egregious allegations have not gone down and reiterates its suggestion that in future it would be useful for such data to be disaggregated according to the type of serious misconduct alleged to enable a deeper analysis of the occurrences of sexual exploitation and abuse.

57. The Special Committee, while acknowledging that it may not always be possible to generate Military Police from specific TCCs, requests the Secretariat to consider generating Force Military Police Units, which will be required to conduct investigations of acts of misconduct, from the countries which contribute the troops to a particular Mission.

58. The Special Committee takes note of resolution 63/119 on the criminal accountability of UN officials and experts on mission and looks forward to continuation of these efforts.

59. The Special Committee encourages further strengthening of cooperation and coordination among the conduct and discipline unit at the United Nations Headquarters including its teams in the field, the Office of Internal Oversight Services and other relevant entities, both at Headquarters and in the field.

60. The Special Committee welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 62/214 containing the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel. The Special Committee looks forward to the publication of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Victim Assistance Guide prepared by the Secretariat for implementation of the Strategy throughout the UN system and requests an update on progress by 2010.

61. The Special Committee reaffirms the importance of welfare and recreation for the personnel serving in peacekeeping operations, including non-contingent personnel, bearing in mind that welfare and recreation also contribute to strengthening morale and discipline. The Special Committee believes that the provision of facilities related to welfare and recreation should be adequately prioritized during the establishment of peacekeeping missions. In this regard, the Special Committee takes note of resolution 62/252 of the General Assembly which provided for the welfare and recreation needs of contingent personnel and looks forward to consideration of the Secretary General's report including on welfare and recreation needs of non-contingent personnel. The Special Committee reaffirms the important role of troop- and police-contributing countries in the welfare and recreation of contingent personnel.

## **F. Strengthening operational capacity**

### **1. General**

62. The Special Committee takes note with interest of the New Horizon initiative being undertaken by DPKO and DFS. The Special Committee encourages DPKO and DFS to engage with troop-contributing countries in the development of this initiative and looks forward for close interaction between the Secretariat and Member States in this process.

63. The Special Committee believes that a sound interaction and better understanding must be maintained between Security Council, Secretariat and the troop contributing countries (TCCs) to devise clear, unambiguous and achievable mandates and to generate and mobilize necessary political, human, financial, and logistical resources and information capacity to achieve the mandates.

64. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to seek the most efficient use of available resources for UN peacekeeping operations.

65. The Special Committee is of the opinion that there should be adequate capabilities and clear and appropriate guidelines for peacekeeping missions so that they are able to carry out all their mandated tasks.

66. The Special Committee is of the view that whenever the mandate of a mission is changed or amended, the Secretariat should ensure, at the earliest opportunity, that the operational documents (including CONOPS and ROE) conform with the changed mandate. The Special Committee reaffirms that the views of concerned TCCs and PCCs should be given due consideration during this process.

67. The Special Committee strongly recommends that the Security Council be fully advised on the availability of operational and logistical capabilities, which would be necessary for the success of a peacekeeping operation, prior to making a decision on a new or major change to an existing mandate.

## 2. Military capacities

68. The Special Committee underscores the vital importance of the military function within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and emphasizes the need for timely, accurate and detailed assessment of the situation in the areas of peacekeeping operations, in close coordination with the field missions, troop-contributing countries and host countries.

69. The Special Committee reiterates the need for timeliness and transparency in the recruitment of senior positions in the OMA and head and deputy head of the military component in the field missions and requests that member states be kept informed of the progress in recruitment in a timely fashion.

70. The Special Committee recalls paragraphs 36 and 37 of General Assembly resolution 62/250 in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the strengthening of the Office of Military Affairs and its impact on the organization and capacities of the Office, and also requested the Special Committee to consider the report at its 2010 substantive session. The Special Committee looks forward to considering this report, and requests the Secretariat to assess the efficiency of the Office of Military Affairs in light of the recent strengthening, and to address the issue of start-up and surge capacity, including through the idea of temporary dedicated mission cells within the OMA, staffed with personnel provided by participating TCCs.

71. The Special Committee recalls Section B of the GA resolution 59/288 on the audit of Safeguarding Air Safety Standards while procuring air services for UN peacekeeping missions as well as the recent strengthening of aviation safety capacity both in Headquarters and in the field, as part of the DPKO realignment. The Special Committee, having discussed extensively the concerns on the use of military utility helicopters in Peacekeeping Missions, and having identified differentiating views between Member States on their reasons, requests the Secretary General present to the General Assembly before the end of 2009, in close consultations with the Member States in a transparent manner, a comprehensive report on the current status and developments in the area of aviation safety in UN peacekeeping, including administrative and safety arrangements

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related to the management and use of military utility helicopters in Peacekeeping Missions.

72. The Special Committee recommends that, in order to overcome the contingent-owned equipment and sustainability shortfalls faced by some troop and police-contributing countries, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support continue to facilitate various enabling arrangements, including through other Member States and bilateral arrangement.

3. United Nations police capacities

73. The Special Committee notes with appreciation the review of the Police Division carried out since its last report. The Committee notes the sustained increase of the police dimension in a number of missions and stresses, in that context, the importance of maintaining an appropriate support capacity in Headquarters to ensure an adequate level of oversight and guidance to the field. The Committee acknowledges the gaps in the capacities of the Police Division, and stresses the importance of addressing them in a timely manner, in order to ensure efficiency and transparency in the work of the Police Division.

74. The Special Committee notes with appreciation the Report on the Standing Police Capacity (A/63/630) and further notes the results of the report. The Special Committee welcomes the accomplishments of the Standing Police Capacity. The Special Committee recalls the recommendations of the High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change (A/59/565 para 223) and all relevant decisions of the General Assembly regarding the Standing Police Capacity.

75. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to continue its efforts in developing standard operating guidelines and procedures and guidelines for UN Policing including for Formed Police Units, in close consultations with Member States.

76. The Special Committee recognizes the need to recruit qualified personnel for police components of United Nations peacekeeping operations and encourages the Secretariat to improve procedures and guidance, in close cooperation with contributing countries, for timely, effective and transparent evaluation and recruitment of candidates.

4. Rapid deployment

77. The Special Committee takes note of the report of the informal open-ended working group on the Enhanced Rapidly Deployable Capacities, which agreed that the concept is presently unviable given the lack of appropriate financial arrangements and support from Member States for this purpose. However the Special Committee invites the Secretariat to further explore other possibilities until its next substantive session, in order to get the necessary capacities available for United Nations peacekeeping missions in crisis. Further, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to develop appropriate risk

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mitigation strategies during its planning process to address the operational requirements of crisis situations.

78. The Special Committee takes note of the existing United Nations Stand-by Arrangement System (UNSAS) and requests the Secretariat to engage with Member States in order to assess its effectiveness.

**5. Integrated planning**

79. The Special Committee reiterates the need for the full implementation of the integrated mission planning process (IMPP) and welcomes in this regard the production of the IMPP guidance package. The Special Committee calls for periodic briefings by the Secretariat on the status of its implementation.

**6. Doctrine and Terminology**

80. The Special Committee takes note of the internal Secretariat publication entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations: principles and guidelines”, bearing in mind that it does not create legal obligations for Member States or their contingents. The Special Committee takes note of the efforts of the Secretariat in undertaking consultations during its development. The Special Committee believes that further work on documents related to United Nations peacekeeping should take duly into account the views of Member States and be the subject of a thorough consideration in the Special Committee.

**G. Strategies for complex peacekeeping operations**

**1. General**

81. The Special Committee stresses that sustainable progress on security, national reconciliation and development need to occur in parallel, given the interconnected nature of those challenges in countries emerging from conflicts.

82. The Special Committee stresses that peacekeeping operations need to be complemented with activities aimed at effectively improving the living conditions of the affected populations, including quick implementation of highly effective and visible projects that help create jobs and deliver basic social services in the post-conflict phase.

83. The Special Committee stresses that the United Nations system and the international community, in particular donor countries, in cooperation with national authorities, should develop and engage in coordination systems, which should focus on immediate needs as well as long-term reconstruction and poverty reduction. The Special Committee recognizes that better coordination with United Nations country teams and the various development actors is of paramount importance to ensure greater efficiency in

development efforts and address urgent development problem.

84. The Special Committee reiterates that there is no one-size-fits-all model for multidimensional peacekeeping operations and that each mission should take into account the needs of the country concerned.

## 2. Peacebuilding issues and the Peacebuilding Commission

85. The Special Committee reaffirms the need for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to plan and conduct United Nations peacekeeping activities in such a manner as to facilitate post-conflict peacebuilding, the prevention of recurrence of armed conflicts and progress towards sustainable peace and development. The Special Committee underlines the importance of effective coordination between the Department for Peacekeeping Operations, the Peacebuilding Support Office, the Department for Political Affairs, United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and non United Nations partners in the planning and implementation of peacebuilding efforts, building on their respective strengths, and particularly at the early stage of UN engagement in post-conflict situations. To help achieve this, the Special Committee emphasizes the need for a coordinated strategic assessment and planning process for peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities in order to ensure an integrated and coherent approach to post-conflict peacebuilding and sustainable peace. While noting that the Department for Peacekeeping Operations is in the lead on all operational matters relating to the planning and the conduct of integrated peacekeeping operations, the Special Committee notes the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in providing timely advice when requested on mandated peacebuilding activities undertaken by United Nations peacekeeping operations, in particular by ensuring that those activities are sustainable and in conformity with peacebuilding strategies.

86. The Special Committee underlines the need to formulate peacebuilding strategies and programmes that are integrated with host-nation strategies and programmes to ensure national ownership.

87. The Special Committee recommends that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, taking into account the work of relevant United Nations bodies such as the Peacebuilding Commission as well as the Peacebuilding Support Office, further explore opportunities for partnerships in post-conflict situations with international financial institutions, as well as regional arrangements, with a view to establishing effective cooperation.

88. The Special Committee underlines the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in particular in developing, in consultation with national Governments, integrated peacebuilding strategies and marshalling resources for their implementation, as well as its efforts to ensure fulfilment of mutual commitments on the part of all relevant stakeholders, enhance the coordination of relevant actors on the ground and promote dialogue on cross-cutting peacebuilding issues and lessons learned from past experiences.

89. The Special Committee welcomes the efforts by the Department for Peacekeeping Operations and the Peacebuilding Support Office to ensure that lessons learned from experiences gained in the transition from United Nations peacekeeping operations to integrated peacebuilding offices are captured and notes the importance that these be taken into consideration in other transitional processes.

90. The Special Committee recognises the need to support national governments in the delivery of critical recovery and peacebuilding requirements in immediate post-conflict environments. In this respect, the Special Committee looks forward to the publication of the Secretary-General's report on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict. The Special Committee calls upon the relevant organs of the United Nations to take note of the need to enhance the UN's ability to support national peacebuilding efforts in a more effective and timely manner.

### 3. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR)

91. The Special Committee stresses that disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration programmes are crucial components of peacekeeping operations and that their success depends upon the political will and concerted effort of all parties. It is crucial therefore that DDR is firmly established within a political process and that all actors are prepared for a multi-year programme. The Special Committee recognises that DDR is an evolving field and that DDR programmes could be tailored to specific contexts, mindful of the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and their dependants and to ensure consistency with national strategies and stresses that the civilian reintegration of ex-combatants poses particular challenges, requiring concerted efforts to help rapidly jump start the economy in order to create employment opportunities for ex-combatants and the wider community. In this regard, the Special Committee welcomes the ongoing support provided to field missions by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations' DDR section, and reiterates the importance of close partnership with national governments, other United Nations actors, the World Bank, donors, partners, regional arrangements and non-governmental agencies in the design and implementation of DDR programmes. The Special Committee reiterates the need for the work being undertaken to clarify the relationship between Security Sector Reform and Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration to be completed and presented to the Special Committee.

### 4. Security sector reform

92. The Special Committee recognizes that SSR is a nationally-owned process. The Special Committee notes that the General Assembly has a relevant role to play in the development of an overarching United Nations approach for SSR; the Special Committee, in particular, is able to make a significant contribution in the area of SSR issues in United Nations Peacekeeping. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to elaborate guidelines, in consultation with Member States, and stresses the importance of lessons-learned and best practices. The Special Committee requests

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that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations provides a briefing on its activities in support to SSR, in particular support provided to missions in the field.

93. The engagement of the United Nations in providing assistance for security sector reform through peacekeeping missions should be undertaken at the request of the host country. The Special Committee recognizes that security sector reform in post-conflict countries is normally a long-term process that is nationally owned and rooted in the particular needs and conditions of the country concerned. It is the sovereign right and primary responsibility of the country concerned to determine the national approach and priorities for security sector reform.

94. The Special Committee stresses that the sustainability of security sector reform depends on national ownership and the sustained support of the international community, including bilateral donors. The United Nations and the international community should avoid imposing external models of security sector reform and concentrate on strengthening the capacity of the host country to develop, manage and implement security sector reform through inclusive consultation processes at all stages of transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding and sustainable development. The Special Committee believes that the United Nations approach to security sector reform must be flexible, adaptable and tailored to the country concerned.

95. The Special Committee underlines that security sector reform must take place within a broad framework of the rule of law and should contribute to the overall strengthening of United Nations rule of law activities in peacekeeping operations, taking into account that United Nations activities and structures should not be duplicative. To that end, the Committee underlines the importance of coordination to ensure consistency and coherence in the United Nations.

96. The Special Committee recognises the need for a holistic and coherent United Nations approach to SSR and acknowledges the principal role of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in supporting SSR activities in peacekeeping missions. The establishment of an effective, professional and accountable national security sector is one of the critical elements in the transition from United Nations peacekeeping to sustainable peace and development, including economic recovery.

97. The Special Committee recognises and encourages the Department of Peacekeeping Operations' continued assistance and advice to United Nations peacekeeping and special political missions. In delivering this assistance, the Special Committee supports the development of a United Nations roster of senior SSR experts who would be available on a short-term consultancy basis.

98. The Special Committee reiterates the need to establish a SSR unit in Office of Rule of law and security institutions on the basis of the capacity approved by the General Assembly. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of incorporating gender perspectives in SSR programmes. The Special Committee continues to recognise the need for clear field mechanisms for coordination and implementation of SSR.

5. Rule of law

99. The Special Committee recognizes that creating and sustaining stability in a post-conflict environment requires that the causes of the conflict be addressed and that national and local rule of law capacities be assessed, restored and enhanced as appropriate from the beginning of a United Nations peacekeeping operation. In this regard, the Special Committee recalls the importance of respect for the rule of law as a vital contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity.

100. The Special Committee reiterates the need for greater clarity and specificity in United Nations peacekeeping mandates on rule of law issues and requests that, where mandated, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations continue to ensure that rule of law and transitional justice are integrated into the strategic and operational planning of peacekeeping operations. Such mandate should be fully implemented and ensure national ownership, particularly in supporting and assisting in building national capacity.

101. The Special Committee welcomes the continued progress made in assessing lessons learned from past experiences and options for strategies in the field of rule of law for ongoing and future United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to implement lessons learned where appropriate and continue to report on its implementation and efforts in this regard.

102. The Special Committee notes the importance on the ongoing development of guidance material for operational rule of law issues, and requests the Secretariat to brief Member States whenever such development of material is initiated and to provide regular information on progress.

103. The Special Committee calls upon the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, within its responsibility as a lead entity and where mandated in peacekeeping operations, to ensure cooperation and coordination among all relevant United Nations actors, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, in order to ensure an holistic and coherent United Nations approach to the rule of law

104. The Special Committee, following the recent establishment of the Office of the Rule of Law and Security Institutions, requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to include in its next annual report an assessment on how the creation of this office has contributed to closer coherence and synergies amongst its own sections and between other United Nations actors in order to deliver rule of law mandates more effectively.

105. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of holistic and integrated rule of law assistance being provided to assist host countries from the very outset of the establishment of new peacekeeping missions and, in this regard, urges the Secretariat to implement measures to ensure UN staff are made available in order to implement fully mandates related to the rule of law throughout the life of the mission, taking into account

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the relevant provisions of resolutions 63/250 and 61/279. The Special Committee calls on DPKO to provide further details on the way forward to address comprehensively the provision of adequate rule of law capacity, including in the field, taking into account the relevant provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions.

6. Gender and peacekeeping

106. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of ensuring full and effective implementation of Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008) on women and peace and security, and all relevant General Assembly Resolutions, particularly 61/143 and 63/155, on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women. The Special Committee underlines the gravity of all acts of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and stresses the importance of addressing the needs of all victims of such acts. The Special Committee recognizes the work undertaken by gender advisers in the field and by the gender trainer in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The Special Committee underlines the need to finalise and implement the gender training strategy. The Special Committee looks forward to working with the Secretary-General in the development and implementation of appropriate training programs for all peacekeeping personnel deployed by the United Nations, to help them better prevent, recognize and respond to sexual violence and other forms of violence against women and girls.

107. The Special Committee acknowledges the importance of the systematic inclusion in Secretary-General's written reports on situations of which the Security Council is seized, observations and recommendations with regard to the issue of sexual violence and the protection of women and girls. The Special Committee looks forward to the proposed development, by the Secretary-General, of effective guidelines and strategies to enhance the ability of relevant UN peacekeeping operations, consistent with their mandates, to address the issue of sexual violence.

108. The Special Committee acknowledges the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. The Special Committee urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue to develop a comprehensive strategy to increase the participation of women in all aspects and at all levels of United Nations peacekeeping operations, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/164 and Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008). In addition, the Special Committee encourages the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue to support the effective implementation and promotion of gender perspectives into multidimensional peacekeeping activities.

109. The Special Committee recognizes the contribution of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and other United Nations entities in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to work in a cooperative manner with them, in order to

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guarantee the necessary coordination in the context of promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women through, inter alia, the promotion of the implementation of relevant UN resolutions.

110. The Special Committee believes that the provision of adequate and updated gender-sensitivity training material to national and regional peacekeeping training centers is important.

111. The Special Committee reiterates its concern at the low proportion of women amongst United Nations peacekeeping staff at headquarters and in the field. In addition, the Special Committee encourages Member States to increase, as appropriate, the participation of women among uniformed personnel in United Nations peacekeeping operations, at all levels.

#### 7. Children and peacekeeping

112. The Special Committee recognises the effort undertaken by the Secretariat on the issue and reaffirms in this regard the General Assembly resolutions 62/140 and 63/241 and Security Council resolutions 1539 (2004) and 1612 (2005). The Special Committee recommends the inclusion, where appropriate, of specific child protection provisions in peacekeeping mandates and the deployment, on a case-by-case basis, of child protection advisers in relevant peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations further elaborate the role and responsibilities of child protection advisers within peacekeeping missions and outline clear modalities for cooperation with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, taking care to avoid duplication in the discharge of their respective functions to ensure a comprehensive strategy of prevention and response with respect to all forms of violence against children. Clear modalities on cooperation would also ensure a comprehensive strategy of prevention and response with respect to all forms of violence against children in armed conflict, in particular, but not limited to, recruitment, killing and maiming of children, abduction, sexual violence, attacks on schools and hospitals and denial of humanitarian access to children.

113. The Special Committee takes note of the designation of a focal point in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to liaise with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on children in armed conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on violence against children, within their respective mandates, in order to further the commitment and actions of peacekeeping and to assist in the development of policy guidance in the area of child protection. In this regard, the Special Committee expresses its deep concern about the delay in the appointment of a new Special Representative on violence against children as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/141, and requests the Secretary-General to fully comply with the request and to take urgent action to appoint, in accordance with the resolution, at the highest possible level and without delay, a Special Representative.

#### 8. HIV/AIDS and other health related issues and peacekeeping

114. The Special Committee notes with concern that health-related issues, including cardio-vascular diseases, HIV/AIDS, and other infectious diseases, remain the leading cause of fatalities in the field.

115. The Special Committee reiterates its belief that the United Nations should set the highest possible medical standards in protecting peacekeepers in the field from infectious diseases and protecting both peacekeepers and the local population from HIV/AIDS. In this regard, the Special Committee recognises the important work undertaken by HIV/AIDS advisers and focal points in United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat and Troop-Contributing Countries and Police Contributing Countries to strengthen their efforts to harmonise pre-deployment and in-country awareness programmes, and to ensure the strict application of United Nations guidelines on medical clearance and medical conditions that preclude deployment. In this regard, the Special Committee recognises the importance of training of all UN peacekeeping personnel on medical risks in the mission area in accordance with the provided guidelines.

116. The Special Committee requests that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support provide an annual brief to this Committee on the progress made in dealing with health-related issues in peacekeeping operations.

117. The Special Committee recognizes the need to standardize and streamline the reporting of medical data across United Nations peacekeeping missions, including repatriation and mortality data, so that they can be made available to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations periodically for planning, strategic and reporting purposes.

118. The Special Committee notes the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to streamline collection and dissemination of information related to injuries and fatalities of civilian staff, police and military contingent personnel and military observers in peacekeeping, including through the “Notification of Casualty” (NOTICAS) system and, in this regard, urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to further strengthen this system to enable more timely dissemination of information to TCCs and Police contributing countries concerning incidents involving their nationals.

119. The Special Committee further stresses the need to ensure a speedy and appropriate follow-up on compensation claims submitted by the TCCs and Police contributing countries in cases of illness, disability or death attributable to service.

120. The Special Committee underlines the responsibility of troop-contributing countries to ensure appropriate medical examination and clearance of all UN personnel from national contingents in accordance with the medical guidelines for peacekeeping operations.

## 9. Quick-impact projects

121. The Special Committee welcomes the implementation of quick-impact projects by peacekeeping operations and continues to recognize the important contribution they make towards the successful implementation of mandates by addressing the immediate needs of local populations and building confidence in, and support for, peacekeeping missions, their mandates and the peace processes. The Special Committee recognizes that quick-impact projects play a key role in strengthening the link between missions and local populations and in accomplishing their objectives, and that their implementation should take into account the situation and needs on the ground.

122. The Special Committee calls for the full implementation of section XVIII of General Assembly resolution 61/276 and stresses that quick-impact projects are an integral part of both mission planning and the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies to meet the challenges facing complex peacekeeping operations.

123. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of coordination with humanitarian and development partners in order to avoid duplication and overlap of activities between peacekeeping missions and humanitarian and development partners in the field.

124. The Special Committee further appreciates the voluntary and additional contributions of TCC/PCC Contingents in funding projects in peacekeeping missions.

10. Other mandated tasks including the protection of civilians

125. The Special Committee reaffirms that the implementation of all mandated peacekeeping tasks is to be in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the guiding principles of peacekeeping operations. Such implementation should be supported by a comprehensive peace process involving all stakeholders, underpinned by national ownership and the support of the international community. The Special Committee recognizes that there are a range of important mandated tasks, including but not limited to, support to the restoration and extension of state authority, support to political processes, and protection of civilians under imminent threat of physical violence, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the host government to protect civilians. The Special Committee stresses the key importance of close cooperation with national authorities in the implementation of mandated tasks, as appropriate.

126. The Special Committee stresses the importance of the effective and full implementation of mandates and further stresses the need for close cooperation between the Security Council, TCCs and the Secretariat to ensure that peacekeeping mandates are well-defined and achievable. Accordingly, United Nations peacekeeping missions must be provided with all the necessary resources in a timely and efficient manner. This should include, inter alia, consolidated and mission-specific training in all related operational matters to enhance operational capacity, based on lessons-learned and best practices from UN peacekeeping missions and Member States.

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127. The Special Committee acknowledges that the protection of civilians is currently mandated in a number of United Nations peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee recognizes that protection of civilians is the primary responsibility of the host country and accordingly emphasizes that relevant peacekeeping missions with this mandate should conduct their tasks without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the host government to protect civilians. The Special Committee also acknowledges that the successful conduct of protection of civilians tasks, wherever a UN mandate exists, requires integration of efforts at all levels and underlines the importance of a comprehensive approach to this issue.

128. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to provide for its consideration detailed information, based on lessons-learned, on the provision of resources, training, and concepts of operations in existing peacekeeping missions regarding the mandate of protection of civilians, and requests an assessment of their adequacy in effectively achieving all mandated tasks. The Special Committee further requests the Secretary-General to present proposals to improve the ability of existing peacekeeping missions to respond to situations adversely affecting civilians, including all the necessary logistical support and training required for TCCs.

#### **H. Cooperation with troop-contributing countries**

129. The Special Committee believes that there is a need to enhance the relationship between those who plan, mandate and manage United Nations peacekeeping operations and those who implement the mandates of those operations. Troop Contributing Countries should be involved early and fully in all aspects and stages of United Nations Peacekeeping operations so that, the experience and expertise of the TCC can assist the Security Council in making appropriate, effective and timely decisions on United Nations peacekeeping operations.

130. The Special Committee underlines the importance of interaction between potential troop-contributing countries and the Secretariat in the early stages of planning and requests the Secretariat to produce pre-deployment threat assessments and share them with potential troop-contributing countries. The Special Committee recognizes the benefit to be derived from potential troop-contributing countries making reconnaissance visits to new missions and before presenting their pledges to those missions, and encourages such visits.

131. The Special Committee underlines the need for full and effective implementation of the provisions contained in Security Council resolution 1353 (2001) and the note by the President of the Security Council of 14 January 2002 (S/2002/56) in order to utilize optimally these mechanisms to forge a stronger relationship with troop-contributing countries. The consultations with troop-contributing countries should be held at all stages of a United Nations peacekeeping operation, including at the request of troop-contributing countries, and in particular in advance of the renewal or mandating of an operation by the Security Council so that the views of troop-contributing countries can contribute meaningfully to the decision-making process.

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132. The Special Committee, in order to enhance transparency and effectiveness, urges the Secretariat to circulate in a timely manner copies of the reports of the Secretary-General on specific United Nations peacekeeping operations and to organise regular troop and police contributing countries meetings in a timely manner prior to Security Council consultations. The Special Committee recommends that troop and police contributing countries be provided with comprehensive briefings on a regular basis on the situation of each PKO. This will enable troop and police contributing countries to prepare properly for the meeting and participate more fully. The Special Committee also requests that the Secretariat calls immediately for a troop and police contributing countries meeting in all cases of an emergency situation or in the event of a serious incident occurring in a mission area.

133. The Special Committee underscores the importance of better interaction between the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations and troop-contributing countries. The Special Committee encourages the Security Council Working Group to implement the recommendations concerning cooperation with troop-contributing countries contained in its report of 13 December 2006 (S/2006/972).

134. The Special Committee emphasizes that any invitation by the Secretariat to meetings on establishing a new peacekeeping mission, or expanding an ongoing one, should be transparent and should include all current and potential troop and police-contributing countries of a specific mission.

135. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to consult with the troop contributing countries in a timely manner when planning any change in the tasks, mission-specific rules of engagement, operational concepts or command and control structure which have an impact on the personnel, equipment, training and logistics requirements, in order to enable troop-contributing countries to give their advice in the planning process and to ensure that their troops have the capacity to meet the new demands. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to consult with the troop-contributing countries concerned when planning a drawdown of troops in any United Nations peacekeeping operation. The implementation of the drawdown should take place only after consideration of inputs from the troop-contributing countries and bearing in mind the situation on the ground.

136. The Special Committee underlines the need for comprehensive, transparent and timely information sharing with regard to all aspects of Peacekeeping Operations between the Secretariat and troop and police contributing countries. In this regard the Special Committee requests that the Secretariat establish a web-based access for all troop and police contributing countries to - at least - all relevant Reports, Documents, Standing Operating Procedures, Directives, Guidelines, Policies and briefing materials as such have been referred to in A/63/615/Add.1 in consultation with troop and police contributing countries as appropriate.

## **I. Cooperation with regional arrangements**

137. Bearing in mind the primacy of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, the Special Committee reaffirms the important contribution that regional arrangements and agencies can make to peacekeeping, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, and when the mandate and capacity of regional arrangements or agencies allow

138. The Special Committee recognizes the valuable work of these regional arrangements or agencies in supporting the United Nations peacekeeping and in enhancing their Member States' common ability to contribute to peacekeeping operations, including through the development of capabilities.

139. The Special Committee welcomes all positive developments in the field of cooperation with the regional arrangements or agencies and encourages the Secretariat to further strengthen these linkages, such as the one described in detail in the following section covering the cooperation with the African Union.

#### **J. Enhancement of African peacekeeping capacities**

140. The Special Committee underlines the need for a strategic and effective relationship between the United Nations and the African Union in the context of peacekeeping operations in accordance with Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter and emphasizes the importance of increasing the African Union's capacity in the area of conflict prevention, mediation and peacekeeping. In this regard there is a need for coherent and effective coordination of support provided by multiple stakeholders to the African Union in the field of peacekeeping capacity- building.

141. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of implementing the joint action plan for United Nations support to the African Union in peacekeeping in the short, medium and long-terms, and the ten year plan for capacity-building. The Special Committee reiterates the request that the established multidisciplinary African Union peacekeeping support team continue to serve as a coordinating point for all issues in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations related to cooperation with the African Union and to brief regularly the Committee on its functioning and mandate, particularly as related to the question of providing much needed support to the regional and subregional capacity.

142. The Special Committee underscores the need to identify ways to address the requirements of the African Union in the context of peacekeeping at the continental level. In this regard, the Special Committee takes note of the Report prepared by the AU-UN Panel on modalities for support to AU peacekeeping operations and recommends the enhancement of an effective partnership with the African Union in order to improve planning, deployment and management of African peacekeeping operations.

143. The Special Committee reaffirms the need to strengthen training and logistics in Africa that are both crucial sectors for an effective and secure peacekeeping. This will

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further enhance deployment of United Nations peacekeeping Missions in Africa, thereby supporting capacity building of the African Union in the field of peacekeeping operations and ensuring cost-effectiveness. The Special Committee therefore stresses the importance of close coordination between all international partners and donors supporting African Union capacity-building, including through enhancing the effectiveness of the existing training centres.

#### **K. Best practices**

144. The Special Committee notes the launch of the Policy, Evaluation and Training Division website entitled the “Peacekeeping Resource Hub: Policy, Lessons Learned and Training for the Peacekeeping Community”, which replaces the Peacekeeping Best Practices website in March 2009. The Special Committee expects that this website will enhance global peacekeeping capacity by providing the peacekeeping community with timely access to relevant training standards, materials and tools, as well as relevant guidance documents. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to produce a report, before its next session, on the feasibility of translating its training materiel into the UN’s official languages, as necessary, and those most commonly used by TCCs.

#### **L. Training**

145. Recalling paragraph 180 of the SG report A/62/19, the Special Committee further urges the Secretariat to translate all peacekeeping training materials into the six United Nations official languages.

146. The Special Committee reaffirms the need to ensure that all personnel selected for peacekeeping missions have the required professional background, expertise and training. The Special Committee recalls, in this regard, the shared responsibility of the Member States and the Secretariat concerning the training of personnel to be deployed in United Nations peacekeeping operations as stated in General Assembly resolution 49/37.

147. The Special Committee takes note of the Department of Peacekeeping Operation’s development of its “United Nations Peacekeeping Training Strategy”, including through incorporating the major findings of the Strategic Training Needs Assessment. The Special Committee requests that the progress of the strategy’s implementation be presented to the Special Committee by September 2009.

148. The Special Committee takes note of the ongoing work of the Integrated Training Service concerning the development of a set of minimum training standards and training modules, and welcomes the updating of these training materials with information on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and HIV/AIDS. The Special Committee requests for a briefing prior to the dissemination of these training materials.

149. The Special Committee acknowledges that the increasingly complex and multidimensional nature of peacekeeping demands expertise and experience that most Member States cannot muster on a continuous basis, and in this regard encourages

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cooperation in peacekeeping training among Member States, including through the provision of training opportunities and assistance to new and emerging troop-contributing countries. The Special Committee welcomes efforts by the Secretariat to facilitate this cooperation.

150. The Special Committee supports the efforts of Member States, and regional arrangements within their mandates, to enhance the capacity of peacekeeping personnel at peacekeeping training centres and encourages Member States to provide further support for these efforts. The Special Committee also supports the Department of Peacekeeping Operations' efforts in providing those peacekeeping training centres, as well as national training focal points, with the necessary guidance for training United Nations peacekeeping personnel. In this regard, the Special Committee looks forward to receiving a comprehensive briefing on the Department's newly developed training guidance materials for these centres, and revised procedures and criteria for United Nations recognition of the centres' courses. The Special Committee looks forward to the rapid resumption of the recognition process.

151. The Special Committee looks forward to further improvement of the standardized training modules for potential senior mission leaders, and recalling paragraph 170 of document A/62/19, reiterates the need to develop a training package on Integrated Mission Planning Process and to include it as part of the senior mission leader training. The Special Committee looks forward to receiving an update on the progress made in this regard.

152. The Special Committee notes the various initiatives underway to enhance pre-deployment training capacity for police personnel and to facilitate bilateral training assistance for pre-deployment as and when requested by Member States. The Special Committee renews its call for the finalization, in consultations with Member States, for training standards and guidelines for Formed Police Units (FPU) and the finalization of specialized training modules for police.

153. The Special Committee recalls paragraph 86 of document A/63/615 add.1 and welcomes the first standardized United Nations police pre-deployment training curriculum and mission specific training. The Special Committee notes the recent pre-deployment mission-specific training that was conducted in partnership with the Secretariat and Member States, which resulted in an increase from 10% to 70% of newly deployed police personnel who received pre-deployed training.

154. The Committee acknowledges the need for senior mission administration and resources training currently offered under the Senior Mission Administration and Resource Training Programme (SMART). However the Special Committee is concerned about the level of integration with the Integrated Training Service. Therefore the Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to evaluate the programme, including through the post-course analysis of each programme, and the feasibility for Integrated Training Service taking over the conduct of the programme. The Special Committee looks

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forward to receiving the findings of this evaluation before the programme is institutionalised and funded

155. The Special Committee takes note of the work carried out by the Proficiency Testing and Training Teams (PT3s) for Formed Police Units, calls for the urgent development of deployment guidelines, and notes the planned deployment of mobile training teams (MTT) and mobile assistance teams, which involves all Member States, as a strategy to ensure future FPUs are fully effective on deployment into mission

156. The Special Committee notes with appreciation the review of the Police Division carried out since its last report. The Special Committee notes the sustained increase of the police dimension in a number of missions, and stresses the importance of maintaining an appropriate support and guidance capacity in the United Nations Headquarters to ensure adequate oversight and guidance to the field and to complement the work of ITS. In this context the Special Committee request the Secretariat consider the viability of having a police operational advisory capacity in the Police Division.

157. The Special Committee welcomes the free and multilingual delivery of peacekeeping distant learning through the E-learning for African Peacekeepers (ELAP) and E-learning for Peacekeepers from Latin America and the Caribbean (ELPLAC) provided by the Peace Operations Training Institute. The Special Committee appreciates the voluntary contributions that made it possible for the Peace Operations Training Institute to offer 22 courses in English, with on-going translations into Arabic, French, Portuguese and Spanish, and encourages Member States to support the creation of additional courses and translations. Also, the Special Committee welcomes the integrated Distance Learning Programmes (IDL) provided directly to the peacekeeping missions by the Peace Operations Training Institute. The Special Committee urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Institute to work together to promote the existing e-learning programmes and highlights the importance of ensuring the use and further development of these materials.

158. The Special Committee notes the recent dissolution of the e-learning relationship between UNITAR and POCL. Given the end of this relationship the Special Committee welcomes the emergence of the new partnership between the Peace Operations Training Institute, POTI (formerly POCL) and the United Nations mandated University for Peace which will enable students to earn an Executive Masters of Arts (EMA) in Peace Operations through a blending of the Institute's e-learning and UPEACE's classroom courses. The Special Committee urges UPEACE and the Institute to offer as many scholarships as possible for peacekeepers from developing nations and welcomes Member States' support.

159. The Special Committee underlines that the training and raising of awareness in regards to misconduct are among the key elements in assuring orderly conduct of UN personnel. The Special Committee believes that troop and police contributing countries and the Secretariat play important roles in this respect.

**M. Personnel**

160. The Special Committee recognizes the efforts made by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support with regard to balanced recruiting of staff in accordance with the Charter, the United Nations Staff Regulations and Rules and relevant General Assembly resolutions, and urges the Secretary-General to continue his efforts. The Special Committee reiterates that in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter, in the employment of staff the paramount consideration shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and that due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible. The Special Committee notes that the gender perspective should continue to be pursued in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions.

161. The Special Committee believes that appropriate representation in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and peacekeeping missions should also take into account the contributions by Member States. The Special Committee urges the Secretary-General to ensure a fair representation of troop-contributing countries when selecting personnel for such staff positions.

162. The Special Committee acknowledges the progress made by the Secretariat in ensuring a better representation of TCCs, in particular those from developing countries, in regard to Senior Mission leadership appointments and requests that this trend be continued.

163. The Special Committee, recalling paragraph 2 of section 10 of General Assembly resolution 63/250, expresses concern at the continuing low proportion of women in the Secretariat, in particular, the low proportion of women from developing countries, especially at the senior levels and stresses that, the recruitment process, the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, should be taken into account and those women would be accorded equal opportunities, in full conformity with relevant resolutions.

164. The Special Committee, recalling paragraph 7 of section 9 of General Assembly resolution 63/250, reiterates the request to the Secretary General to take all necessary measures to ensure at the senior and policy making levels of the Secretariat equitable representation of member states, especially those with inadequate representation at those levels, and to continue to include relevant information in future reports to the Special Committee.

165. The Special Committee remains concerned over the high number of vacancies in peacekeeping missions and requests the Secretariat to accelerate the recruitment, and approval process, of personnel including senior mission leadership.

166. The Special Committee recalls Section II of General Assembly resolution 63/250 and requests the Secretary-General to swiftly implement the decisions on contractual

arrangements and harmonization of conditions of service, as means to deal with the high vacancy issue in peacekeeping operations.

167. The Special Committee, recalling paragraph 6 of section XI of General Assembly resolution 59/296, requests the Secretary General to continue to ensure greater use of national staff in peacekeeping operations, when feasible.

168. The Special Committee recalls that English and French are the two working languages of the Secretariat. The Special Committee underscores the importance of effective interaction between Headquarters and the field to ensure efficient communications and the safety of all peacekeeping personnel. In this regard, it encourages the Secretary-General to take steps to employ staff in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support competent in using the Secretariat's working languages.

169. The Special Committee acknowledges that the interaction of United Nations military, police and civilian personnel with the local population is necessary for the efficient and successful action of Peacekeeping Operations. To that end, language skills are required and shall constitute an important element of the selection and training processes. Therefore, the Special Committee urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to make further efforts in recruiting staff and experts on mission with language skills that are relevant to the particular mission area where they are to be deployed, to address specific requirements of peacekeeping operations. In particular, good command of the official language spoken in the country should be taken into account as an essential asset during these processes

170. The Special Committee reminds the Secretariat that staff sent to United Nations field operations to conduct examinations for experts on mission, in particular examinations in language and driving skills, are to be certified and adhere to examination criteria based on the standard United Nations programmes

171. The Special Committee notes the efforts made by the Police Division and the Office of Military Affairs in recruiting French-speaking peacekeepers, especially police officers, to address specific requirements of peacekeeping operations.

172. The Special Committee is concerned that the United Nations death and disability claims process for peacekeeping personnel is overly cumbersome, lengthy and lacking in transparency. The Special Committee notes also that discrepancies exist between the compensation benefits provided to experts on mission and those provided to contingent members. The Special Committee in this context recalls section X of General Assembly resolution 61/276 and requests the Secretary-General to ensure its full and timely implementation.

## **N. Financial issues**

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173. The Special Committee recalls all provisions of General Assembly resolutions, in particular paragraph 1 of resolution 61/279, reaffirming that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters. The Special Committee also recalls rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

174. The Special Committee again stresses that all Member States must pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions. It reaffirms the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly, bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963.

175. The Special Committee expresses concern over the significant amounts of outstanding reimbursements that the United Nations currently owes to troop-contributing countries, which may adversely affect the capacity of this important tool for United Nations peacekeeping. The Special Committee also notes that there are still contributors that have not yet been reimbursed for their participation in various ongoing and closed missions, going back more than a decade. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to continue to look into practical modalities to address this exceptional circumstance and to inform Member States at the earliest opportunity.

176. The Special Committee stresses the importance of ensuring the timely reimbursement of troop contributing countries for their peacekeeping contributions. In this regard, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat to ensure the rapid processing and payment of reimbursements.

177. The financial contribution by States Members of the United Nations is essential to the success of United Nations peacekeeping operations and timely and unconditional payments are important. The Special Committee recognizes that the views of contributors other than troop-contributing countries should also be taken into account, as appropriate. The Special Committee stresses the importance of holding regular, routine consultations between all stakeholders and the main peacekeeping decision-making bodies.

178. The Special Committee welcomes the fact that the 2008 Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment agreed to its recommendations by consensus. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of effective and transparent contingent-owned equipment inspections. The Special Committee acknowledges that troop costs have not been reviewed since 2002 and looks forward for the decisions the 5th committee will examine on this matter during its 63rd session.

179. The Special Committee expresses its concerns at the delays experienced in housing peacekeeping personnel in appropriate accommodation that provides adequate protection

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against the elements in all missions and request the Secretariat to take the necessary measures to improve the situation pursuant to the Contingent Owned Equipment Manual.

**O. Other matters**

180. The Special Committee is convinced of the importance of recognizing the contribution of Member States providing police to peacekeeping operations and the increasing reference to Police Contributing Countries (PCC) already contained in this report. In this regard, the Special Committee acknowledges the need to clarify the terms Troop Contributing Countries (TCC) and PCC. The Committee is committed to referring this question as a matter of priority at its next substantive session in order to resolve any ambiguities. The Special Committee requests the Secretary General to report on any implications, including legal, of updating established terminology before its 2010 substantive session.