Module 2: Mandated Tasks of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

Lesson 2.1

Mandated Tasks
Relevance

Peacekeeping personnel must be familiar:

- Shared tasks
- All contribute
Learning Outcomes

Learners will:

- Identify four categories of mandated tasks
- List examples of mandated tasks which are the core business of UN PKOs
- Describe two critical areas where UN PKOs play a limited “support” role
- List four humanitarian principles
Lesson Overview

1. Overview of Mandated Tasks
2. Supervision or Monitoring of the Ceasefire Agreement
3. Provision of a Secure & Stable Environment
4. Facilitating the Political Process
5. Facilitating the Delivery of Humanitarian Assistance
6. Supporting Poverty Reduction & Economic Development
Learning Activity

Mandated Tasks

Instructions:
- Match images with tasks, definitions and challenges addressed
- Discuss impact of the challenges on civilians
- Identify peace and security, humanitarian and development tasks

Time: 10 minutes
- Group work: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 3 minutes
1. Overview of Mandated Tasks

The range of mandated tasks may be categorized in the following way:

- Core business
- Support roles
- Peacebuilding activities
- Cross-cutting thematic tasks
Learning Activity 2.1.2

Putting Tasks into Categories

Instructions:
- Label tasks as core business, supporting role, peacebuilding activity or cross-cutting theme
- Give reasons

Time: 5 minutes
- Brainstorming: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 2 minutes
The Core Business

- Supervision or monitoring of the ceasefire agreement
- Provision of a secure and stable environment
- Facilitating the political process
Peacebuilding Activities

- Mine action
- Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of ex-combatants
- Security sector reform (SSR)
- Rule of law (ROL)-related activities
- Electoral assistance
- Support to the restoration and extension of State authority
Support Roles

- Facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance
- Cooperating and coordinating with mission partners to support poverty reduction and economic development
Cross-Cutting Thematic Tasks

- Human rights
- Protection of civilians (POC)
- Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV)
- Child protection
- Women, Peace and Security (WPS)
2. Supervision or Monitoring of the Ceasefire Agreement

- **Ceasefire agreement**: refers to a temporary stoppage of war or any armed conflict for an agreed-upon timeframe or within a limited area.

- **Monitoring ceasefire agreements**: involves actions to gather information on compliance with an agreement.

- **UNPKOs** monitor to reassure that parties will not exploit ceasefires to gain military advantage.

- **Core business**
3. Provision of a Secure & Stable Environment

- A secure environment is generally a pre-condition for moving ahead on several elements of peace agreements
- **UNPKOs** help fill the security/public order vacuum, and as a result play a critical role in securing the peace process and creating a safe environment for humanitarian and development actors
- Primary role of the military component
- Core business
4. Facilitating the Political Process

- **Political process**: steps to end conflict, maintain peace – involves peace negotiations and peace agreements

- **UNPKOs** facilitate the political process by promoting dialogue and reconciliation, and supporting the establishment of legitimate and effective institutions of governance

- Important for a lasting settlement or longer-term political solutions

- **Core business**
5. Facilitating the Delivery of Humanitarian Assistance

- **Humanitarian assistance**: aid and action designed to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain and protect human dignity during and in the aftermath of man-made crises and natural disasters.
- Includes basic supplies of drinking water, food, shelter, medical care, protection and assistance to refugees and IDPs.
- **UNPKOs** facilitate delivery.
- Support role.
Responsibilities

Host Country

Has Capacity

If Yes

Initiates, coordinates and delivers humanitarian assistance

If No

International and National Humanitarian Actors

e.g. UN agencies, ICRC, NGOs

UNPKO assists by providing a secure environment
“Humanitarian Space”

- An environment where receiving humanitarian assistance is independent of military and political action
- Ensures safety and accomplishment of humanitarian actions and personnel
- **Four humanitarian principles:** humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence
- Complementary concepts for **civil-military coordination:** UN-CIMIC (UNPKO) and UN-CMCoord (OCHA)
Learning Activity 2.1.3

“Humanitarian Space”

Instructions:

- You are a humanitarian worker
- Consider the scenario
- How can the mission help with the challenges?
- Discuss importance of “humanity”, “neutrality”, “impartiality” and “independence”

Time: 10 minutes

- Group work: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 3 minutes
6. Supporting Poverty Reduction & Economic Development

- **Poverty reduction**: ‘pro-poor’ policies and policies to stimulate economic growth, raise incomes and indirectly reduce poverty
- Poverty eradication is important for lasting peace and sustainable development
- **UNPKOs** cooperate, coordinate with partners
- Support role
Summary of Key Messages

- Mandated tasks – core business, peacebuilding activities, supporting roles, cross-cutting thematic tasks
- Core business – monitor cease-fire, provide secure environment, facilitate political process
- Supporting roles – facilitate delivery of humanitarian assistance, coordinate mission partners in development
- Humanitarian principles – humanity, neutrality, impartiality, independence

UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2017
Questions
Learning Activity

Learning Evaluation