



Handout

Role and Responsibilities of Formed Police Units, Commanders and Police Peacekeepers

Part I: The Role and Responsibilities of FPU

1. An FPU is responsible for planning, coordinating, directing and controlling all mandated operational activities in the designated area of responsibility (AOR). FPUs are usually deployed in key locations and operate in the AOR to dominate vulnerable areas, prevent sexual violence, deter perpetrators and respond to threats based on their tasks and DUF. In the context of prevention and response to CRSV, FPUs are typically responsible for:
 - a. Deploying static and mobile operational elements/patrols to dominate vulnerable areas, prevent violations, deter perpetrators and respond to threats to CRSV.
 - b. Establishing surveillance, monitoring and early-warning systems for accurate, real-time CRSV situational awareness.
 - c. Activating community alert network (CAN) and deploying Community Liaison Assistants (CLA) to obtain information and sensitise local population.
 - d. Outreaching with all mission components, UN and non-UN actors/partners, host Government authorities (civil/military/police) and local communities (including women and children), as well as the CRSV perpetrators (both state and non-state actors) in respective AOR. Gain confidence of the local population through reassurance and confidence building measures.
 - e. Sensitising locals on community and individual protection measures, early-warning measures and on confidential reporting.
 - f. Supporting increased (confidential) reporting of CRSV threats and incidents through public information campaigns to create general awareness (e.g. installation of display boards/hoardings in vernacular language, CAN/CLAs, etc.).
 - g. Providing necessary inputs on MARA.
 - h. Ensuring that commanders at all levels and static/mobile operational elements are easily accessible and approachable to the civilians, particularly the women and children.
 - i. Establishing easily accessible women's help desk, women's meeting room, and separate medical examination centre operated by female police peacekeepers/medics/interpreters to promote privacy and confidential communication.
 - j. Ensuring enduring presence (including through joint patrols with host State police and UN military peacekeepers) in CRSV vulnerable areas.
 - k. Maintaining credible quick reaction teams with protected mobility for rapid response to potential/impending CRSV threats.
 - l. Protecting civilians (particularly women and children) through robust and direct actions, including use of force as provided in DUF.
 - m. Arresting/detaining/disarming perpetrators if mandated.
 - n. Providing victim/survivor assistance through gender sensitive medical aid/patient retention facilities and evacuation support.
 - o. Establishing detention facilities in the base for perpetrators as per Interim SOP on Detention.
 - p. Ensuring all police peacekeepers are trained and sensitised on CRSV challenges and are able to respond effectively.

Part II: Role and Responsibilities of FPU Commanders in Prevention and Response to CRSV

2. **Overview.** FPU commanders play a crucial role in executing the protection of civilian's obligation, particularly during crisis situations through firm resolve and decisive leadership. Some of the fundamental expectations from UN police commanders are:
 - a. Clear understanding of the Mission mandate, obligations (including towards the host population and international community) and DUF.
 - b. Commitment and determination to protect civilians, specifically the women and children; and to advance human rights through their functions.
 - c. Provision of guidance, training and sensitising subordinate commanders/sub-units.



- d. Foresight, initiative and mental mobility in analysing and responding to CRSV threats.
 - e. Judicious and calibrated military application (including use of force), based on ROE.
 - f. Empathetic and people-centric in planning and execution of operational activities to build confidence and generate faith in the peace process.
 - g. Collaborative, participatory and inclusive approach in designing protection measures reconciliation efforts.
 - h. Provide support to human rights mobile teams for their undertaking of monitoring and investigation of human rights violations, including allegations of conflict related sexual violence.
 - i. Foster effective junior leadership.
 - j. Establish moral ascendancy to dominate the space, through outreach and engagement activities and targeted military operations.
 - k. Lead by example and be present in the place of action.
 - l. Awareness/fully informed of gender specific needs of women and girls.
3. **Specific Roles and Responsibilities of FPU Commanders.** In UN peacekeeping operations, FPUs are either collocated with a headquarters component or deployed independently in operating bases. The FPU Commander, in addition to being responsible for a specific AOR, is also required to work in closed coordination with other UN entities, partners and host State authorities in the designated AOR. Responsibilities of the FPU Commander in combating CRSV threats include, inter alia:
- a. Carry out risk/threat and vulnerability assessments for the AOR with specific focus on women and children, to feed into overall military assessments.
 - b. Deploy static, temporary and mobile elements in anticipated vulnerable/high incidence areas.
 - c. Ensure static and mobile elements/detachments operating in consonance with each other and retain ability to mutually support or reinforce as required.
 - d. Ensure that the patrols/detachments are equipped, trained, tasked, briefed and motivated to execute the mandate with a PoC/CRSV focus.
 - e. Provide support to human rights mobile teams for their undertaking of monitoring and investigation of human rights violations, including allegations of CRSV.
 - f. Sensitise all police peacekeepers on the PoC/CRSV responsibilities with particular reference to women and children.
 - g. Establish an effective early-warning network in the Company AOR.
 - h. Ensure constant monitoring, continuous communication and effective control of all operations in the AOR so as to respond to operational challenges in time and space.
 - i. Carry out operational activities to prevent/deter/respond to CRSV threats.
 - j. Carry out detailed briefing and debriefing to ensure consistency in performance.
 - k. On receipt of a report on CRSV incident/imminent threat, carry out the following actions:
 - i. Assess situation and give preliminary directions/warning order to subordinate commander as required.
 - ii. Inform UNPOL HQ and ask for additional resources if required.
 - iii. Inform designated official (parallel to chain command) in the Mission HQ (SWPA and CPA).
 - iv. Follow directions on the Referral Arrangements issued by the Mission HQ.
 - v. Send reinforcements to the site of incident/vulnerable area as required.
 - vi. Launch reserves to be effective in time and space if required.
 - vii. Be in personal control and visit the site as early as possible.
 - viii. Assist designated officials/investigating team (security, food, transportation, etc.).
 - ix. Coordinate with local administration, local police, or other actors (as per referral arrangements).
 - x. Consult with UN military component as needed.
 - xi. Ensure casualty/medical evacuation as per procedure, if required.
 - xii. Ensure detainees are handled and treated as per SOP.



Part III: The Role and Responsibilities of UN Police Peacekeepers

4. Ultimately it is the individual UN police peacekeeper who is a true bearer of the Blue Helmet and the cutting edge in executing the mandated tasks. In addition to being sensitised and trained by the commanders at higher echelons, an individual peacekeeper must endeavour to meet UN standards and develop necessary skill-sets to function effectively in a peacekeeping environment.
5. Responsibilities of a police peacekeeper in combating CRSV threats include, inter alia:
 - a. Be a role model to all other actors by upholding respect for women and children, protecting their rights and promoting values through personal conduct.
 - b. Understand and respect cultural sensitivities during interaction with local people while ensuring the protection of their safety, dignity and rights.
 - c. Have basic conversational skills (task oriented) in the vernacular and/or national language.
 - d. Do not engage in any act of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) as defined and explained in ST/SGB/2003/13. Take action to prevent and report cases of SEA.
 - e. Understand tasks related to CRSV and implementing them based on applicable DUF.
 - f. Understand and be able to identify early-warning indicators and reporting procedures.
 - g. Respond to various situations as per SOP and established tactics, techniques and procedures.
 - h. Follow correct procedure for use of force.
 - i. Understand handling of survivors and alleged perpetrators/confirmed offenders.
 - j. Understand the importance of preservation of evidence.
 - k. Allegations received or observed by the police peacekeepers in their work that may amount to human rights violations shall be promptly recorded and shared with the human rights component for verification, investigation and follow-up by the latter, as appropriate.
 - l. Carry and regularly consult pocket cards (DUF, Referral, Code of Conduct, Do's and Don'ts, Language) on person.
 - m. Be able to provide "First Aid" to the victims/survivors.
 - n. All peacekeepers must ensure that they "do no harm" to the civilians.