Chapter I

International peace and security

The year 2009 brought new challenges for international peace and security, as the United Nations worked to address several conflict situations, mainly in Africa, and further incidents of international terrorism, while supporting the efforts of post-conflict countries to sustain peace and stability, rebuild national institutions and restore economic development. The Security Council took forward the reform of peacekeeping operations and debated ways to strengthen collective security, stressing the role of mediation in settling disputes. It also reviewed measures to ensure the protection of civilians in armed conflict and met regularly with troop-contributing countries with respect to ongoing peacekeeping operations. The Peacebuilding Commission enhanced its efforts in support of countries emerging from conflict, including through its country configurations relating to Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone. During the year, the United Nations maintained 12 political and peacebuilding missions and offices.

The United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia ceased to exist on 15 June, after the Russian Federation vetoed a technical roll-over for the mission. At the end of 2009, there were 15 peacekeeping operations, served by 119,577 uniformed and civilian personnel.

The scale and frequency of international terrorist acts continued, resulting in the deaths of hundreds of innocent civilians and injuries to many others. In addition to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq, areas affected included Iran, Indonesia and Somalia. A suicide bomb attack in Islamabad on 5 October killed five World Food Programme staff members, and a Taliban attack in Kabul on 28 October killed five UN staff members. The Council issued statements condemning those attacks as unacceptable and unjustifiable. The General Assembly in December requested that the Secretary-General provide the resources necessary to finalize the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, in order to ensure coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the UN system.

During the year, the Council also issued statements on mediation and dispute settlement, post-conflict peacebuilding, civilians in armed conflict and the conduct of peacekeeping operations. In November, it adopted a resolution on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, in which it demanded that parties to a conflict comply with their obligations under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, urging them to take all measures required to respect the civilian population. By a resolution on conflict diamonds, the General Assembly reaffirmed its support for the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and for the Kimberley Process as a whole. By a resolution on the Peacebuilding Fund, it affirmed the respective roles of the General Assembly, the Peacebuilding Commission and the independent Advisory Group to provide policy guidance on the use of the Fund to maximize its impact and improve its functioning. The Assembly also adopted texts on a comprehensive review of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, the peacekeeping support account, the scale of assessments for apportioning the expenses of peacekeeping operations, rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries, the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, criminal accountability of UN officials and experts on missions, and the responsibility to protect.

Regarding the financial position of UN peacekeeping operations, expenditures rose by 13.6 per cent, from $6,265.8 million to $7,120.6 million for the 2008/09 financial year. The increase was mainly due to the expansion of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad and the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Unpaid assessed contributions decreased by 5 per cent to $967.5 million.

Promotion of international peace and security

Maintenance of international peace and security

Security sector reform

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. During its 2009 substantive session (New York, 23 February–20 March) [A/63/19], the Special Committee said that UN assistance for security sector reform through peacekeeping missions should be undertaken at the request of the host country. In post-conflict countries, such reform was normally a long-term process, rooted in the needs...
and conditions of the country concerned. Its sustainability depended 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 host country’s capacity to develop, manage and implement such reform through inclusive consultation processes at all stages of the transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding and sustainable development.

The Special Committee stressed that security sector reform must take place within a broad framework of the rule of law and should contribute to the overall strengthening of UN rule of law activities in peacekeeping operations. It recognized the need for a holistic and coherent UN approach, and acknowledged the principal role of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in supporting such reform activities in peacekeeping missions. The establishment of an effective, professional and accountable national security sector was a critical element in the transition from UN peacekeeping to sustainable peace and development, including economic recovery. The Committee encouraged DPKO’s continued assistance and advice to UN peacekeeping and special political missions. It reiterated the importance of incorporating gender perspectives in security sector reform programmes, and stressed the need to establish a security sector reform unit in the DPKO Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions.

**Mediation and settlement of disputes**

**Report of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to presidential statement S/PRST/2008/36 [YUN 2008, p. 40], the Secretary-General, in April, submitted a report on enhancing mediation and its support activities [S/2009/189] that examined the challenges faced by the United Nations and its partners in providing professional mediation assistance to parties in conflict. It described the need for experienced and knowledgeable mediators and support teams, with women adequately represented, and sufficient resources to provide assistance at an early stage to help parties design and pursue processes that would address the root causes of their conflicts, overcome obstacles blocking progress, and achieve agreements leading to sustainable peace. It discussed the importance of building local, national and regional capacity for mediation and the need for coherent partnership between the United Nations, regional and subregional organizations, States and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). It stated that the new Mediation Support Unit in the Department of Political Affairs had, by late 2008, supported 18 ongoing or new peace processes. The cost-effectiveness of mediation in the resolution of disputes was highlighted. Among its recommendations, the report emphasized the need for early UN engagement to strengthen conflict prevention and resolution; increasing support for mediators; developing the next generation of UN mediators; and integrating mediation support into UN field operations.

**Security Council consideration.** On 21 April [meeting 6108], the Council held an open debate on mediation and settlement of disputes and on the report of the Secretary-General. The Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, B. Lynn Pascoe, on the establishment of the Mediation Support Unit and a reserve pool of expert mediators; the importance of working with Member States, regional organizations and NGOs in efforts to mediate; and support activities for mediators in the planning and management of peace processes. More than 40 speakers addressed the day-long debate.

**SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION**

On 21 April [meeting 6108], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement S/PRST/2009/8 on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council recalls the statement by its President of 23 September 2008 and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing mediation and its support activities, as well as the recommendations contained therein.

The Council, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and as the organ with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, underscores its intention to remain engaged in all stages of the conflict cycle, including in support of mediation, and expresses its readiness to explore further ways and means to reinforce the promotion of mediation as an important means for the pacific settlement of disputes, wherever possible before they evolve into violence.

The Council recognizes the importance of mediation, to be launched in the earliest possible phases of conflicts as well as in the implementation phases of signed peace agreements, and underlines the need to design mediation processes that address the root causes of conflicts and contribute to peacebuilding, in order to ensure sustainable peace.

The Council stresses that the principal responsibility for the peaceful settlement of disputes rests with the parties to the conflict and that it is only through their full participation and genuine commitment to resolve the conflict, including its underlying causes, that peace can be achieved and sustained. In this regard, the Council underlines the importance of building national and local capacity for mediation.

The Council emphasizes the importance of the actions undertaken by the Secretary-General in promoting mediation and in the pacific settlement of disputes, and welcomes the continued efforts of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in particular through the Mediation Support Unit, to respond to emerging and existing crises. It underscores that mediation
support efforts should be responsive to the demands of fast-moving peace processes.

The Council recalls the important contribution of Member States, regional and subregional organizations, civil society and other stakeholders to the pacific settlement of disputes. The Council welcomes the efforts made by regional and subregional organizations to enhance their mediation role, and appreciates the efforts of the Secretary-General to continue to assist them in this regard.

The Council urges the Secretariat to work with all partners to ensure the availability of well-trained, experienced and geographically diverse mediation experts at all levels to ensure the timely and highest quality support to mediation efforts, and it urges those possessing cadres of mediation experts to cooperate with the Secretariat in this endeavour.

The Council further requests the Secretary-General to work in partnership with Member States, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant partners in a coordinated and mutually complementary manner when cooperating in a mediation process.

The Council notes with concern the very low numbers of women in formal roles in mediation processes, and stresses the need to ensure that women are appropriately appointed at decision-making levels, as high-level mediators, and within the composition of the mediators’ teams in line with resolutions 1325(2000) and 1820(2008). It reiterates its call to the Secretary-General and the heads of regional and subregional organizations to take the appropriate measures to that end.

The Council requests the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the action undertaken by him in promoting and supporting mediation and the pacific settlement of disputes, ensuring coherence with the ongoing efforts to strengthen peacebuilding and peacekeeping.

United Nations and regional organizations

Security Council consideration. On 18 March [meeting 6092], the Security Council held a high-level debate on peace and security in Africa, during which it discussed the report [YUN 2008, p. 111] of the panel led by Romano Prodi containing recommendations on strengthening cooperation between the African Union (AU) and the United Nations. In statement S/PRST/2009/3 (see p. 105), the Council emphasized the importance of establishing more effective strategic relationships between the AU and the United Nations, and encouraged further efforts in that direction.

On 26 October [meeting 6206], after having considered peace and security in Africa, the Council adopted statement S/PRST/2009/26 on cooperation with regional organizations, in particular the AU, in maintaining international peace and security (see p. 109). The Council welcomed the intention of the UN Secretariat and the AU Commission to set up a joint task force on peace and security to review immediate and long-term strategic and operational issues.

Conflict prevention

The General Assembly, by decision 63/563 of 14 September, deferred consideration of the item entitled “Prevention of armed conflict” and included it in the draft agenda of its sixty-fourth (2009) session. On 24 December, the Assembly, by decision 64/549, decided that the item “Prevention of armed conflict” would remain for consideration during its resumed sixty-fourth (2010) session.

Conflict diamonds

Kimberley Process. The Kimberley Process [YUN 2000, p. 76], at its seventh annual session (Swakopmund, Namibia, 2–5 November) continued its work relating to the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS), which was established in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 55] to stop the trade in conflict diamonds from fuelling armed conflict, protect the legitimate diamond industry and ensure implementation of UN resolutions on trade in conflict diamonds. As at 5 November, KPCS had 49 members. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 63/134 [YUN 2008, p. 45], Namibia, on 8 December, transmitted to the Secretary-General the 2009 Kimberley Process report [A/64/559] in its capacity as Chair of KPCS.

Since the inception of KPCS, there had been a dramatic improvement in the security situation in several diamond-producing countries to which the Process contributed significantly, the report stated. With regard to concerns relating to diamond smuggling, illicit trade activities and human rights violations in the Marange diamond fields in Zimbabwe, a joint workplan was formulated at the 2009 plenary to improve security at access control points and enhance security of processing and storage areas. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1842(2008) [YUN 2008, p. 194], KPCS had maintained close cooperation with the United Nations Group of Experts on Côte d’Ivoire. The KPCS Working Group on Monitoring continued to use satellite monitoring technology to monitor illicit rough diamonds production. In 2008–2009, Belgium funded the footprinting of the Kimberley Process data project, which aimed at improving the quality of the statistical analysis data in order to quickly identify statistical anomalies, and develop an adequate statistical filtering methodology, as well as a regional analysis of statistical data for West Africa, Central Africa and South America so as to enhance implementation of the Kimberley Process in those regions.
A new Kimberley Process rough diamond statistics system was launched as a means of containing the flow of conflict diamonds into the legitimate market and as a regular source of information on KPCS implementation. The system had built-in security measures to implement quality edit checks and controls to ensure data consistency during the data entry phase. Stressing that technical assistance from participants and organizations remained key to enhancing Kimberley Process implementation, the report noted, for example, that the European Community provided technical advisers to Liberia to help that country comply with recommendations made by the Kimberley Process review teams after their visits there in 2008 and 2009.

The Working Group of Diamond Experts had been tasked by the Moscow Resolution (2005) and the Brussels Initiative (2007) to calculate the possible diamond production of Côte d’Ivoire on a yearly basis for two diamondiferous regions in the north. It had also been tasked with studying the characteristics of diamonds produced in West Africa, and assisting with their identification by developing footprints for the different diamond productions, in order to stop Côte d’Ivoire diamonds from being mixed with other productions. In follow-up to the Moscow Resolution/Brussels Initiative, the production estimates of Côte d’Ivoire had been partly based on satellite imagery. During 2009, the World Diamond Council trained staff to take digital photographs of all rough diamond exports in order to depict their origin, pending the production of footprints by the Working Group.

Although the Kimberley Process had made significant strides, it still faced daunting challenges. Participants had occasionally been confronted with the appearance of fraudulent Kimberley Process certificates, which in itself posed a threat and a challenge for the Process. Increases in Internet sales and postal shipments had become a concern, as it had proved difficult to track and reconcile rough diamond shipments via the Internet or postal service. As for its next session, Israel, the Vice-Chair for 2009, would succeed Namibia as Kimberley Process Chair, with effect from 1 January 2010, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo would serve as Vice-Chair in 2010.

(On the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 187], which monitored the embargo on the import of rough diamonds from Côte d’Ivoire, and its Expert Group, see p. 184.)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 11 December [meeting 63], the General Assembly adopted resolution 64/109 [draft: A/63/L.26 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 12].

The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

The General Assembly,
Recognizing that the trade in conflict diamonds continues to be a matter of serious international concern, which can be directly linked to the fuelling of armed conflict, the activities of rebel movements aimed at undermining or overthrowing legitimate Governments and the illicit traffic in and proliferation of armaments, especially small arms and light weapons,
Recognizing also the devastating impact of conflicts fuelled by the trade in conflict diamonds on the peace, safety and security of people in affected countries, and the systematic and gross human rights violations that have been perpetrated in such conflicts,
Noting the negative impact of such conflicts on regional stability and the obligations placed upon States by the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,
Recognizing that continued action to curb the trade in conflict diamonds is imperative,
Noting with appreciation that the Kimberley Process, as an international initiative of the Governments of participating States, has pursued its deliberations on an inclusive basis involving concerned stakeholders, including producing, exporting and importing States, the diamond industry and civil society, as well as applicant States and international organizations,
Recalling that the elimination of conflict diamonds from legitimate trade is the primary objective of the Kimberley Process,
Calling for the consistent implementation of commitments made by Kimberley Process participant States,
Acknowledging that the diamond sector is an important catalyst for achieving poverty reduction and meeting the requirements of the Millennium Development Goals in many producing countries, particularly in developing countries,
Bearing in mind the positive benefits of the legitimate diamond trade to producing countries, and underlining the need for continued international action to prevent the problem of conflict diamonds from negatively affecting the trade in legitimate diamonds, which makes a critical contribution to the economies of many of the producing, exporting and importing States, especially developing States,
Noting that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,
Recalling the Charter and all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council related to conflict diamonds, and determined to contribute to and support the implementation of the measures provided for in those resolutions,
Recalling also Security Council resolution 1459(2003) of 28 January 2003, in which the Council strongly supported the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme as a valuable contribution against trafficking in conflict diamonds,
Welcoming the important contribution of the Kimberley Process, which was initiated by African diamond-producing countries,
Noting with satisfaction that the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme continues to have a positive impact in reducing the opportunity for conflict diamonds to play a role in fuelling armed conflict and would help to protect legitimate trade and ensure the effective implementation of the relevant resolutions on trade in conflict diamonds,

Acknowledging that lessons learned from the Kimberley Process are useful for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in its consideration of the countries included in its agenda, as appropriate,


Welcoming, in this regard, the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme in such a way as not to impede the legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, nor hinder the development of the diamond industry,

Welcoming also the decision of forty-nine Kimberley Process Participants, representing seventy-five countries, including the twenty-seven members of the European Union represented by the European Commission, to address the problem of conflict diamonds by participating in the Process and implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

Noting the consensual outcomes of the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, held in Swakopmund, Namibia, from 2 to 5 November 2009,

Welcoming the important contribution in fulfilling the purposes of the Kimberley Process that has been made and continues to be made by civil society and the diamond industry, in particular the World Diamond Council which represents all aspects of the diamond industry, to assist international efforts to stop the trade in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming also the voluntary self-regulation initiatives for the diamond industry announced by the World Diamond Council, and recognizing that a system of such voluntary self-regulation contributes, as described in the Interlaken Declaration of 5 November 2002 on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds, to ensuring the effectiveness of national systems of internal control for rough diamonds,

Recognizing that State sovereignty should be fully respected and that the principles of equality, mutual benefits and consensus should be adhered to,

Recognizing also that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, which came into effect on 1 January 2003, will be credible only if all Participants have requisite national legislation coupled with effective and credible internal systems of control designed to eliminate the presence of conflict diamonds in the chain of producing, exporting and importing rough diamonds within their own territories, while taking into account that differences in production methods and trading practices, as well as differences in institutional controls thereof, may require different approaches to meeting minimum standards,

Welcoming the efforts of the Kimberley Process to continue elaborating new rules and procedural norms to regulate the activities of its working bodies, Participants and observers, and to enhance the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

1. Reaffirms its strong and continuing support for the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and the Kimberley Process as a whole;

2. Recognizes that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme can help to ensure the effective implementation of relevant resolutions of the Security Council containing sanctions on the trade in conflict diamonds and act as a mechanism for the prevention of future conflicts, and calls for the full implementation of existing Council measures targeting the illicit trade in rough diamonds, particularly conflict diamonds which play a role in fuelling conflict;

3. Welcomes the admission of new Participants to the Kimberley Process;

4. Recognizes the important contributions that the international efforts to address the problem of conflict diamonds, including the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, have made to the settlement of conflicts and the consolidation of peace in Angola, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

5. Notes the efforts, including the creation of a team of technical experts, to strengthen import confirmation requirements and examine the compliance of cross-border Internet sales with Kimberley Process Certification Scheme requirements;

6. Also notes the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 15 May 2003 granting a waiver with respect to the measures taken to implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, effective from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2006, and the decision of the General Council of 17 November 2006 granting an extension of the waiver until 31 December 2012;

7. Takes note of the report of the Chair of the Kimberley Process submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/134, and congratulates the participating Governments, the regional economic integration organization, the diamond industry and civil society organizations involved in the Process for contributing to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

8. Welcomes the efforts of the Kimberley Process Participants to fully implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and stresses the need to implement the minimum requirements and additional recommended measures established by the Kimberley Process and the intention to increase the efficiency of internal controls;

9. Acknowledges the progress made by Kimberley Process working groups, Participants and observers during 2009 in fulfilling the objectives set by the Chair to strengthen implementation of the peer review system, increase the transparency and accuracy of statistics, promote research into the traceability of diamonds, promote inclusiveness by broadening the level of involvement by Governments, industry and civil society in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, foster a sense of ownership by Participants, improve information and communication
flows and enhance the capacity of the Certification Scheme to respond to emerging challenges;

10. **Stresses** that the widest possible participation in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is essential, and encourages all Member States to contribute to the work of the Kimberley Process by seeking membership, participating actively in the Certification Scheme and complying with its undertakings, and welcomes the increased involvement of civil society organizations, in particular those from producer countries, in the Process;

11. **Recognizes** the importance of the Kimberley Process continuing to articulate and improve rules and procedures to further enhance the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and notes with satisfaction the systematization of the work of the Process with respect to developing transparent and uniform rules and procedures and improving the mechanism for consultations and coordination within the Process;

12. **Welcomes** the adoption of new guidelines pertaining to implementation and enforcement in order to enhance the capacity of the Kimberley Process and provide guidance to national authorities to address specific enforcement issues such as fraudulent certificates, shipments of suspicious origin and the exchange of information in cases of infringement;

13. **Notes with appreciation** the willingness of the Kimberley Process to support and provide technical assistance to those Participants experiencing temporary difficulties in complying with the requirements of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

14. **Notes** the adoption by the Swakopmund plenary meeting of the decision on the sharing of information on the Kimberley Process with the United Nations and on the participation of observers in the Process;

15. **Welcomes** the establishment of a scientific subgroup on characterization and identification of rough diamonds to improve the current footprinting work that is being done by the Kimberley Process on rough diamonds from Côte d’Ivoire;

16. **Notes with appreciation** the continued cooperation of the Kimberley Process with the United Nations on the issue of diamonds from Côte d’Ivoire and the continued monitoring of the situation in that country on the basis of the reports of the United Nations Group of Experts on Côte d’Ivoire, originally established by the Security Council in its resolution 1584(2005) of 1 February 2005, and through liaison with Côte d’Ivoire, and encourages continued cooperation between the Process and the United Nations in addressing this issue, with the ultimate objective of meeting the preconditions for the lifting of United Nations sanctions on the trade in rough diamonds from Côte d’Ivoire;

17. **acknowledges** the adoption by the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process of a plan to strengthen the internal controls of Guinea and to assess that country’s production capacity, welcomes the commitment of Liberia to host a regional meeting to foster further regional cooperation in rough diamond controls, and appreciates the continued effort of Ghana to strengthen internal controls and prevent the infiltration of illicit Ivorian diamonds into the legitimate trade;

18. **Notes with satisfaction** the development of a new Kimberley Process rough diamond statistics website with enhanced security measures and controls, welcomes the progress made towards the collection and submission of complete and accurate statistical reports on the production of and trade in rough diamonds, and encourages all the Process Participants to continue to enhance the quality of data and respond promptly to the process of analysis of the data;

19. **Also notes with satisfaction** the footprint work conducted by the Kimberley Process Working Group of Diamond Experts with respect to Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Togo and the Marange diamond fields in Zimbabwe;

20. **Notes with appreciation** the progress achieved under the action plan by the artisanal and alluvial diamond-producing countries and the sharing of information on the impact of the global financial crisis, namely the economic and social consequences and their impact on internal controls;

21. **Calls upon** all Kimberley Process Participants to implement internal controls in diamond trading and manufacturing centres as part of their own internal controls for ensuring adequate Government oversight over the trade in rough diamonds;

22. **Notes with appreciation** the assistance and capacity-building efforts extended by various donors, and encourages other donors to provide financial and technical expertise and organizational support to Kimberley Process Participants, in particular new Participants, to help them to develop tighter monitoring and control measures;

23. **Acknowledges with great appreciation** the important contribution that Namibia, as Chair of the Kimberley Process in 2009, has made to the efforts to curb the trade in conflict diamonds, and takes note that the Process has selected Israel as Chair and the Democratic Republic of the Congo as Vice-Chair of the Process for 2010;

24. **Requests** the Chair of the Kimberley Process to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the Process;

25. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict”.

### Implementation of 1970 Declaration

The General Assembly, by **decision 64/513** of 2 December, included in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth (2011) session the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security” [YUN 1970, p. 105].

### Climate change and security

**General Assembly action.** On 3 June, the General Assembly adopted **resolution 63/281** on climate change and its possible security implications (see p. 1026). The Assembly invited the relevant UN organs to intensify their efforts in considering and addressing climate change, including its possible security implications.
Chapter I: International peace and security

Proliferation of nuclear weapons

The Security Council, by resolution 1887(2009) of 24 September (see p. 525), reaffirmed its support for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, calling on States that were not parties to accede to it. The Council demanded that parties involved in major challenges to the non-proliferation regime comply fully with their obligations and find early negotiated solutions to those issues.

The Council urged States to curb the export of nuclear-related material to countries that had terminated their compliance with the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards agreements. It also called upon States to refrain from conducting nuclear test explosions and to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in order to bring it into force.

Peacemaking and peacebuilding

Post-conflict peacebuilding

Post-conflict stabilization

Pursuant to presidential statement S/PRST/2008/16 [YUN 2008, p. 52], the Secretary-General in June issued a report [A/63/881-S/2009/304] on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict, defined as the first two years after the end of a main conflict, which focused on the challenges that post-conflict countries and the international community faced in that period. Reflecting on past peacebuilding experience, the report underscored the imperative of national ownership, highlighting the unique challenges arising from early post-conflict situations. The report stated that the threats to peace were often greatest during the early post-conflict phase, but so too were the opportunities to set virtuous cycles in motion. That early phase offered a window of opportunity to provide basic security, deliver peace dividends, shore up confidence in the political process, and strengthen national capacity to lead peacebuilding efforts. If countries developed a vision and a strategy that succeeded in addressing those objectives early on, it substantially increased the chances for sustainable peace and reduced the risk of relapse into conflict, but those early opportunities had often been missed. The report identified several recurring priorities that related to those core objectives, and for which international assistance was frequently requested. Seizing the window of opportunity required that international actors were, at a minimum, capable of responding coherently, rapidly and effectively to support those priorities.

The report described UN efforts to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its post-conflict response. It identified systemic challenges related to differing mandates, governance structures and financing arrangements across diverse UN entities, which prevented the Organization from making deeper reforms. The report set out an agenda to strengthen the UN post-conflict response and to facilitate an earlier, more coherent international response. That agenda included stronger, more effective and better supported UN leadership teams on the ground; early agreement on priorities and alignment of resources behind them; and strengthening UN support for national ownership and capacity development. It also included rationalizing and enhancing the UN system’s capacity to provide knowledge, expertise and personnel to meet the most urgent peacebuilding needs, in concert with partners who had a comparative advantage in particular areas, as well as assisting countries to identify and draw on the most relevant capacities globally.

Finally, the report considered the critical role of the Peacebuilding Commission in supporting post-conflict countries and made suggestions to Member States on how the Commission could strengthen its advisory role in the early post-conflict period.

The General Assembly, by decision 63/571 of 14 September, deferred consideration of the report until its sixty-fourth (2009) session under the items entitled “Report of the Peacebuilding Commission” and “Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund”.

Security Council consideration. On 22 July, the Council held an open debate [meeting 6165] on post-conflict peacebuilding, presided over by Uganda’s Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sam K. Kutesa. The Secretary-General presented his report, emphasizing that peacebuilding entailed much more than ending war; it was about putting into place the institutions and trust that would carry people forward into a peaceful future. Chile, as Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission, said that the Commission would support Governments in managing the difficult process of establishing clear and attainable peacebuilding priorities, working closely with UN country staff to ensure coordination and avoid duplication. The Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) said that effective and quick peacebuilding action was essential if countries emerging from conflict were to succeed in meeting the Millennium Development Goals. The Director of the Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries Group of the World Bank stressed the need for financial accountability to maintain long-term predictable financial support, adding that often the highest priority in the aftermath of conflict was personal security, justice and ending impunity. Forty speakers addressed the day-long debate.
SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 22 July [meeting 6165], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement S/PRST/2009/23 on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council recalls the statement by its President of 20 May 2008, and emphasizes the critical importance of post-conflict peacebuilding as the foundation for building sustainable peace and development in the aftermath of conflict.

The Council welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict as an important contribution towards a more effective and coherent international response to post-conflict peacebuilding. The Council also welcomes the strong commitment of the Secretary-General, expressed in the report, to improve the peacebuilding efforts of the United Nations, and urges him to pursue these objectives.

The Council recognizes that post-conflict situations require from the outset experienced and skilled leadership on the ground with effective support teams, and requests the United Nations to increase its efforts in this regard. The Council welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance the authority and accountability of senior United Nations representatives in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

The Council emphasizes the need for the United Nations system to strengthen strategic partnerships with the World Bank and other international financial institutions, and to complete by the end of 2009 the clarification of roles and responsibilities for key peacebuilding needs and to keep these under regular review, so that the appropriate expertise is generated to achieve a timely and predictable response.

The Council, in accordance with its resolutions 1325(2000) and 1820(2008), underlines the key role that women and young persons can play in re-establishing the fabric of society and stresses the need for their involvement in the development and implementation of post-conflict strategies in order to take account of their perspectives and needs. The Council reaffirms the role of regional and subregional organizations in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations. The Council welcomes the report of the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts in this regard.

Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, at its 2009 substantive session (New York, 23 February–20 March) [A/63/19] stressed that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes were crucial components of peacekeeping operations, and that their success depended upon the political will and concerted effort of all parties.
It was crucial, therefore, that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) were firmly established within a political process and that all actors were prepared for a multi-year programme. The Special Committee recognized that the DDR process was an evolving field and that its programmes could be tailored to specific contexts. It stressed that the civilian reintegration of ex-combatants posed particular challenges, requiring concerted efforts to help jump-start the economy in order to create employment opportunities for ex-combatants and the wider community. The Special Committee welcomed the support provided to field missions by the DPKO Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Section and reiterated the importance of close partnership with Governments, other UN actors, the World Bank, donors, partners, regional arrangements and non-governmental agencies in the design and implementation of DDR programmes.

Rule of law

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. The Special Committee [A/63/19] recognized that creating and sustaining stability in the aftermath of conflict required that the causes of the conflict be addressed and that rule of law capacities be assessed, restored and enhanced from the beginning of a peacekeeping operation. It reiterated the need for greater clarity and specificity in UN peacekeeping mandates on rule of law issues and requested that DPKO continue to ensure that rule of law and transitional justice were integrated into the planning of peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee welcomed the progress made in assessing lessons learned and options for rule of law strategies for ongoing and future peacekeeping operations. It called upon DPKO to ensure cooperation and coordination among UN actors in order to ensure a holistic and coherent approach to the rule of law.

The Special Committee, following the recent establishment of the DPKO Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions, requested that DPKO include in its next annual report an assessment on how the creation of that Office had contributed to closer coherence and synergies among its own sections and between other UN actors to deliver rule of law mandates more effectively. It recognized the importance of holistic and integrated rule of law assistance being provided to host countries from the very outset of the establishment of new peacekeeping missions.

Other peacebuilding issues

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. The Special Committee [A/63/19] reaffirmed the need for DPKO to plan and conduct UN 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 underlined the importance of coordination among DPKO, the Department of Political Affairs, the Peacebuilding Support Office, UN funds, programmes and agencies and non-UN partners in peacebuilding efforts. The Special Committee underlined the need to formulate peacebuilding strategies and programmes that were integrated with host-nation strategies and programmes to ensure national ownership, and recommended that DPKO explore opportunities for partnerships in post-conflict situations with international financial institutions and regional arrangements.

The Special Committee underlined the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in developing integrated peacebuilding strategies and marshalling resources for their implementation, ensuring fulfilment of mutual commitments on the part of stakeholders, enhancing coordination on the ground and promoting dialogue on cross-cutting issues. The Special Committee welcomed the efforts by DPKO and the Peacebuilding Support Office to ensure that lessons learned in the transition from UN peacekeeping operations to integrated peacebuilding offices were captured, and noted the importance of those lessons being taken into consideration in other transitional processes. It also recognized the need to support Governments in the delivery of critical recovery and peacebuilding requirements in immediate post-conflict environments.

Peacebuilding Commission

In accordance with Security Council resolutions 1645(2005) and 1646(2005) [YUN 2005, p. 94] and General Assembly resolution 60/180 [ibid.], the Peacebuilding Commission in September reported [A/64/341-S/2009/444] on its work during its third session, from 23 June 2008 to 30 June 2009. During its first three years, the Commission consolidated its core advisory role and demonstrated increasing support for the countries on its agenda—Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone. It held that the role of its Organizational Committee needed to be reassessed, given the need for overall strategic vision and guidance for the Commission’s work.

The Commission had gained valuable experience through engagement with the countries on its agenda, which would continue to inform its work, its interpretation of its advisory role and the implementation of its mandates. The Commission’s continuous engagement with a wide range of partners, within and beyond the United Nations, had helped in maximizing its outreach and fostered a greater understanding of the Commission’s work among its partners. Those partnerships would add to the Commission’s reper-
toire of knowledge and expertise, which would facilitate the discharge of its mandate.

The Commission’s Working Group on Lessons Learned provided an informal platform for the Peacebuilding Commission to draw on the expertise of practitioners from within and outside the UN system, as well as from countries with experience in post-conflict peacebuilding, on critical peacebuilding priorities in the countries on the Commission’s agenda. In five meetings held between 20 October 2008 and 28 May 2009, it focused on lessons learned and good practices associated with the role of the United Nations in rule of law assistance; regional approaches to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in the Great Lakes region of Africa; the development of national capacity after conflict; the coordination of the Commission with regional and subregional organizations; and sustainable community-based reintegration in post-conflict situations.

The Commission continued to work towards building and strengthening partnerships, at the Headquarters and country levels, and with bilateral and multilateral partners—including donors, international financial institutions and regional and subregional organizations. The report stated that the Commission would also encourage closer cooperation with regional processes, including the African Peer Review Mechanism of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development. National, regional and international partners needed to be fully engaged in the development, monitoring and implementation of the common strategic framework for peacebuilding at the country level if a country was to have access to and make the most efficient use of the support it needed for peacebuilding. The Commission would continue to work in close collaboration with the international financial institutions, particularly in the areas of strengthening the functions of the State and promoting economic recovery.

Discussions in the Commission focused on how it could build on or make use of existing in-country assessments, strategy-setting processes and plans in countries on its agenda, in order to ensure that peacebuilding priorities received attention and support without generating high transaction costs for the national partners. The Commission also began to explore the possibility of diversifying the forms of its engagement with countries on its agenda, including through a multitiered approach. With respect to resource mobilization, the Commission recognized that rapid and flexible funding was critical for successful peacebuilding. It addressed the challenges associated with the mobilization of resources, including through advocacy at Headquarters and in capitals, while also exploring ways of engaging non-traditional partners, the diaspora, private foundations and the private sector in order to supplement the flow of official development assistance and to foster employment creation and economic recovery and growth.

The Commission noted the limited awareness about its role, the evolving concept of peacebuilding, and how the international community could best support peacebuilding, especially in the countries on its agenda. There was little awareness and much confusion about the Commission’s role and links with the Peacebuilding Fund. The Commission decided to explore outreach initiatives, such as the appointment of goodwill ambassadors, the establishment of a group of friends for peacebuilding, and the convening of an annual high-level peacebuilding forum. It would also encourage outreach activities by its Chairs, members and the senior-most UN representatives in the field in support of peacebuilding priorities.

**Security Council consideration.** On 25 November, during an open debate on post-conflict peacebuilding [meeting 6224], the Council invited the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission to introduce the report of the Commission on its third session (see above). It welcomed the strengthening of the Commission’s coordination and cooperation with relevant stakeholders within and outside the UN system. Council members extended their support for the strengthening of interaction between the Council and the Commission and underlined their commitment to refining the Commission’s work by constructively contributing to its 2010 review.

(For activities of the Peacebuilding Commission in Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone, see [Part One, Chapter II].)

**Organizational Committee**

At its 7 January meeting [PBC/3/OC/SR.2], the Peacebuilding Commission’s Organizational Committee considered employment and income-generation and private sector development in post-conflict countries. It elected the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, as well as the Chairpersons of its country-specific configurations on Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone, as well as the Chairperson of its Working Group on Lessons Learned. At its 25 February meeting [PBC/3/OC/SR.3], it elected the Chairperson of its country-specific configuration on Sierra Leone, to replace the newly elected Chairperson, who had relinquished his position. At its fourth meeting, on 29 June [PBC/3/OC/SR.4], the Committee elected the Chairperson of its country-specific configuration on Burundi, to replace the recently elected Chairperson, who was relinquishing his position.

At its 13 July meeting [PBC/3/OC/SR.5], the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict [A/63/881-S/2009/304]. It heard a statement by the Secretary-General, who said that the challenges facing countries emerging from conflict were enormous.
First, the Secretary-General said, there was a need for national ownership in order to anchor peacebuilding at the country level. Second, Member States expected the United Nations to be poised and ready to lead the international community; the report therefore called for the creation of a senior-level mechanism to ensure that the right leadership and support teams were in place as early as possible. Third, effective peacebuilding required input from all parts of the UN system: peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and recovery must happen together. Coordination was therefore crucial to success and fragmentation must be avoided.

Fourth, national and international actors needed to align behind and provide financial support for a common strategic vision with realistic priorities. In some cases, such efforts had taken years; in most cases, they had never taken place. He therefore called on the international community to take the swift action required. Fifth, there was a need for predictable and credible delivery. He would therefore be asking Member States to help the United Nations build its capacity to respond rapidly to the most urgent needs in order to protect civilians and strengthen the rule of law, support political processes, help restore basic services and Government functions, and revitalize the economy.

At its 4 September meeting [PBC/3/OC/SR.6], the Committee adopted the draft report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its third session, heard remarks by Judy Cheng-Hopkins, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, and closed its third session. The Assistant Secretary-General said that peacebuilding consisted of three building blocks, held together by the cement of national ownership: firstly, the essential role of government in such areas as security, political reconciliation, the rule of law and justice; secondly, the provision of basic services, including health care, education and basic infrastructure, to restore a sense of normality to the population following the end of conflict; and, thirdly, the creation of livelihoods, both to give hope to ordinary people—the “peace dividend”—and to enable the demobilization of soldiers, which was an essential but challenging aspect of peacebuilding.

The most important component of the new peacebuilding architecture was the Peacebuilding Commission, she said. The functioning of the second component of the new architecture—the Peacebuilding Fund—had been revised so that instead of three funding windows it now had two, consisting of an immediate response facility to prevent flare-ups of conflict and a peacebuilding and recovery facility, which depended on an integrated-plan approach. Lastly, the Peacebuilding Support Office, the third component of the new architecture, would strive to perform an even better support and facilitation role.

Organizational Committee membership

**Security Council.** In a 6 January letter [A/63/799-S/2009/168], the Security Council informed the Secretary-General that, following informal consultations, the Council had selected Burkina Faso and Mexico as the two elected members of the Council to participate in the Organizational Committee for a one-year term, until the end of 2009.

In a 31 December letter [S/2009/683], the Council informed the General Assembly President that, following consultations, it had designated Gabon and Mexico, two of its elected members, to serve as members of the Organizational Committee for a one-year term, until the end of 2010.

**Economic and Social Council.** On 15 December [E/2009/99], the Economic and Social Council elected Australia, Brazil and Egypt to the Organizational Committee for a term beginning on 1 January 2010 and expiring on 31 December 2010 to fill vacancies arising from the expiration of the terms of Algeria, El Salvador and Luxembourg (decision 2009/201 F).

**Peacebuilding Fund**

In response to General Assembly resolution 63/282 (see p. 49), the Secretary-General in August submitted an annual report [A/64/217-S/2009/419] on the Peacebuilding Fund, established in 2006 [YUN 2006, p. 58] as a mechanism for extending critical support at the early stages of a peace process. The report reviewed the Fund’s operations and activities from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009. As at 30 June, the Fund was active in 12 countries, contributing to building the foundations for peace in countries emerging from conflict or helping post-conflict countries to prevent a relapse into conflict. Recent evaluations and performance reports submitted by recipient organizations confirmed that early notable results had been achieved during the Fund’s initial two years and that it had the potential to fill a unique peacebuilding niche. The evaluations also identified management and operational challenges, which were being addressed in part through a revision of the Fund’s terms of reference (see below) and in part through management improvements instituted by the Peacebuilding Support Office. The revised terms of reference were endorsed by the General Assembly on 17 June (see p. 49), and gave impetus for a broad revision of the Fund’s operational and procedural guidelines.

The financial situation of the Peacebuilding Fund from its inception to 30 June 2009 reflected robust growth. As at 30 June, the Fund’s portfolio stood at $312.9 million (up $44 million from June 2008), with deposits of $309.6 million (an increase of $71 million from June 2008). With 45 donors, the Fund enjoyed one of the broadest donor bases of any multi-
donor trust fund administered by the United Nations, with 18 countries contributing more than once to the Fund. The 10 largest contributors were Sweden, the United Kingdom, Norway, the Netherlands, Japan, Canada, Ireland, Spain, Germany and Denmark. Out of programmable funds of $309.6 million (those received in the trust fund account), $141.3 million was allocated to peacebuilding activities in 12 countries, four of which were on the Peacebuilding Commission’s agenda. Five countries not on its agenda were declared eligible for Fund support by the Secretary-General and had received it, while nine country situations drew on emergency funding, some also receiving support under priority plan funding. While the Fund’s position was solid, the global financial crisis might have an adverse impact on future funding, and that had to be taken into account when Fund allocations were being programmed and when Fund-supported projects were looking for additional funding.

Addressing the four countries on the Commission’s agenda (window I), the report stated that 4 of the 18 projects approved in Burundi had been completed and all but one were expected to be closed by year’s end. During the previous 12 months, implementation had improved and the delivery rate against the total budget of $35 million reached 75 per cent at the end of June. The Peacebuilding Support Office had quickly released additional emergency funding for demobilizing and reintegrating Forces Nationales de Libération (FNL) combatants, resulting in the registration of more than 5,000 of the 11,000 adults associated with FNL. They were issued return kits, paid the first instalment of return assistance and transported to their home communities. Support under the Fund complemented other efforts that enabled some 3,500 FNL elements to be assimilated into the military and police.

Peacebuilding in the Central African Republic continued to face challenges in building on the momentum created by the national political dialogue in late 2008. Initial funding for demobilization activities of $4 million—40 per cent of the Fund envelope—was used to start up that exercise, while additional appeals were made to the international community for support to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities. The priority plan funded 11 projects in the areas of demobilization and reintegrating (60 per cent of the envelope); governance and rule of law, primarily to support human rights and women’s networks (14 per cent); and revitalization of communities affected by conflict (26 per cent).

In Guinea-Bissau, significant political and military tension caused disruptions in three Fund projects; however, meetings of the Guinea-Bissau configuration, coupled with numerous UN country support visits, enabled continuous engagement and tracking of projects—including a professional training and employment programme for 500 youth; enhancement of police capacity and prison security to combat drug trafficking and organized crime; and public tenders for rehabilitating 10 military barracks.

In March, Sierra Leone saw the worst political violence since the end of the civil war in 2002. An inter-party dialogue facilitated by the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (unipsil) brought the two main parties to the negotiating table, leading to a joint communiqué. The quick application of contingency funds provided for setting up a commission of inquiry to investigate allegations of sexual violence during the disturbances, as well as for rehabilitating the damaged offices of one of the political parties. Two projects prepared by unipsil and approved by the Peacebuilding Support Office in May in support of the joint communiqué aimed at improving police control and techniques for riot control and fostering national political dialogue and reconciliation. Notable results included improved outreach of the National Human Rights Commission, increased awareness of the recently passed Gender and Child Rights Act, and a sharp reduction in the backlog of detainees awaiting trial, with 90 per cent of 600 cases cleared.

The report also reviewed activities in support of countries declared eligible for funding by the Secretary-General under window II—Comoros, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Liberia and Nepal. As for emergency funding under window III, assistance was provided for 9 one-off projects of less than $1 million. That facility had proven to be a flexible and responsive instrument that enabled the Secretary-General to respond quickly to imminent threats to peace, while demonstrating the Fund’s risk-taking capabilities. Nearly all the emergency projects, however, experienced implementation delays due to local circumstances that affected quick delivery. Requests for extending projects or for additional funding were received from Burundi, the Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Haiti and Kenya. During the reporting period, two new emergency projects were approved for Sierra Leone, and one each for Burundi and Timor-Leste.

Addressing lessons learned, the report found that the start-up phase of activities in a country was one of the most critical and labour-intensive periods for the UN country team and its national partners. It was therefore essential to ensure greater focus on start-up support to address weak planning, programming and implementation capacity. Synergy between the Fund and the Commission had improved, but there was scope for better calibrating that engagement. More attention must be given to the role of the joint steering committees and to ensuring that they were able to play their role to the fullest. Finally, the tensions inherent in the concept underlying the Fund and the competing demands and expectations required
a strong strategic communications strategy at both the field and global levels.

According to the report, the way ahead included establishment of full fund management capacity within the Peacebuilding Support Office to improve global and country-level support, in particular during the critical start-up phase of Fund activities in each country; the establishment of a robust accountability framework to respond to the information and oversight requirements of the Fund’s donors; improved synergy with the Peacebuilding Commission; using the Fund to improve UN cooperation and collaboration on peacebuilding to strengthen the system’s ability to support countries emerging from conflict; and expanding the Fund’s operations to strategically assist more countries requiring urgent peacebuilding support.

Revised terms of reference. In April [A/63/818], the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly revised terms of reference for the Peacebuilding Fund, following up on an earlier report [YUN 2006, p. 57] in which he had laid out terms of reference and indicated that they should be reviewed no later than two years after their adoption, following consultations with the Advisory Group and the outcome of an independent evaluation. The revised terms of reference annexed to the report emerged from that process.

The revision had been guided by two broad objectives. The first was to enhance the Fund’s capacity to serve as a flexible, responsive and focused resource for peacebuilding support—including through rationalizing and simplifying the Fund’s structure and architecture. The second objective was to maximize the synergy between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Fund through enhanced consultation and dialogue. The Peacebuilding Support Office would review Fund guidance documents in cooperation with the UNDP Multi-donor Trust Fund Office, as well as with the Advisory Group, donors, recipient UN organizations and country-level stakeholders. The UNDP Multi-donor Trust Fund Office would continue to serve as the Peacebuilding Fund’s administrative agent, with primary responsibility for maintaining its accounts. The Fund itself would be managed in accordance with UNDP regulations, rules, directives and procedures. To enhance accountability and clarify roles and responsibilities, arrangements detailing the relationship between the Head of the Peacebuilding Support Office and the UNDP Multi-donor Trust Fund Office would be reviewed so as to reflect the provisions of the revised terms of reference.

As set out in the revised terms of reference, the Peacebuilding Support Office would conduct regular briefings on the Fund’s performance with Member States, the Peacebuilding Commission and donors, while a proposed annual meeting would enable stakeholders to review Fund performance, results and emerging lessons. That event would also provide an opportunity to regularly replenish the Fund. It was the Secretary-General’s view that the revised terms of reference would contribute to improving the Fund’s efficiency and effectiveness in stabilizing countries emerging from conflict, in addressing critical gaps immediately following the signing of peace agreements, and in strengthening national capacities to pursue peacebuilding programmes. Fund resources, combined with the efforts of the Peacebuilding Commission, would help to ensure that post-conflict countries would benefit from sustained international attention and support. Member States were encouraged to continue providing regular voluntary contributions.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 17 June [meeting 90], the General Assembly adopted resolution 63/282 [draft: A/63/L.72 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 101].

The Peacebuilding Fund

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645(2005) of 20 December 2005, as well as its resolution 60/287 of 8 September 2006,
1. Takes note of the arrangements for the revision of the terms of reference for the Peacebuilding Fund as contained in the report of the Secretary-General and the revised terms of reference for the Fund contained in the annex thereto;
2. Notes that the broad objectives of the revision of the terms of reference for the Peacebuilding Fund are to enhance the capacity of the Fund to serve as a flexible, responsive and focused resource for peacebuilding support and to enhance and maximize the synergy between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Fund;
3. Affirms the respective roles of the General Assembly, the Peacebuilding Commission and the independent Advisory Group to provide policy guidance on the use of the Fund to maximize its impact and improve its functioning;
4. Welcomes the contributions and financial pledges made to the Fund, and emphasizes the necessity of sustained contributions in order to enhance the capacity of the Fund to provide the predictable and catalytic resources needed to launch post-conflict peacebuilding activities;
5. Urges all Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to the Fund;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit an annual report to the General Assembly on the operation and activities of the Fund;
7. Also requests the Secretary-General to include in his annual report on the operation and activities of the Fund to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session the findings and recommendations from the next comprehensive independent evaluation;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund".
Protection issues

Responsibility to protect

Report of Secretary-General. Following up on paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome [YUN 2005, p. 62], the Secretary-General, in January, submitted a report [A/63/677] on implementing the responsibility to protect. The report responded to a cardinal challenge posed in those paragraphs of the World Summit Outcome: operationalizing the responsibility to protect. The Heads of State and Government had unanimously affirmed at the Summit that “each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity”. They had agreed as well that the international community should assist States in exercising that responsibility and in building their protection capacities. When a State nevertheless was “manifestly failing” to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing or crimes against humanity, they had confirmed that the international community was prepared to take collective action in a “timely and decisive manner” through the Security Council and in accordance with the UN Charter. The report underscored that the best way to discourage States or groups of States from misusing the responsibility to protect for inappropriate purposes would be to develop fully the UN strategy, standards, processes, tools and practices for the responsibility to protect.

The report outlined a three-pillar strategy for advancing the agenda mandated by the Heads of State and Government. Those pillars were the protection responsibilities of the State, international assistance and capacity-building, and timely and decisive response. The strategy stressed the value of prevention and, when it failed, of early and flexible response tailored to the circumstances of each case. The report provided examples of policies and practices that were contributing, or could contribute, to advancing goals relating to the responsibility to protect under each of the pillars.

Addressing the way forward, the report set out points that the General Assembly might wish to consider as part of its “continuing consideration” mandate under paragraph 139 of the Summit Outcome. Some preliminary ideas on early warning and assessment, as called for in paragraph 138 of the Summit Outcome, were set out in an annex. The report also presented policy ideas that might merit further consideration by Member States, although the Secretary-General did not request the Assembly to take action on them.

General Assembly debate (July). The General Assembly held a four-day debate (21, 23, 24 and 28 July) on the responsibility to protect and the Secretary-General’s report. The President of the General Assembly, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, delegates from 94 States as well as experts addressed the debate and engaged in an informal interactive dialogue [A/63/PV.96-101 & Corr.].

In his closing remarks on 28 July, General Assembly President Miguel d’Escoto Brockmann (Nicaragua) said that the majority of States felt that any action under Chapter VII of the UN Charter must be in conformity with the Charter and international law, considered on a case-by-case basis. Any coercion must take place under the collective security provisions of the Charter, and only in cases posing an immediate threat to international peace and security. Some States had expressed concern that the United Nations should not take the enormous leap to make the responsibility to protect operational as presently formulated, voicing doubts that the global community could respond to massive Government failure to protect populations without falling back on double standards. Recent “disastrous” interventions had given developing countries reason to fear that laudable motives could be misused to justify interventions against weaker States. Keeping those concerns in mind, Member States were unified in their conviction that the international community could no longer remain silent in the face of genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity. Most States also favoured an approach that focused on finding ways to prevent such crises and on dealing with their root causes.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 September [meeting 105], the General Assembly adopted resolution 63/308 [draft: A/63/L.80/Rev.1 & Add.1] without vote [agenda items 44 & 107], as orally revised.

The responsibility to protect

The General Assembly,
Reaffirming its respect for the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,
Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome, especially paragraphs 138 and 139 thereof,
1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and of the timely and productive debate organized by the President of the General Assembly on the responsibility to protect, held on 21, 23, 24 and 28 July 2009, with full participation by Member States;
2. Decides to continue its consideration of the responsibility to protect.

Protection of civilians in armed conflict

Security Council consideration (January). On 14 January [meeting 6066], the Security Council held a day-long debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict.
Chapter I: International peace and security

John Holmes, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, said that the debate was taking place in the shadow of the conflict in the Gaza Strip between Israeli forces and Hamas militants, and the Council’s focus should be on the conduct of hostilities and the need for strict compliance with international humanitarian law. The situation in southern Israel and Gaza was pressing and desperate. Civilians in southern Israel had long lived under the constant threat of rocket and mortar attacks by Palestinian militants. Considering the number of rockets and mortars fired, civilian casualties had been limited, but the frequent and indiscriminate nature of the attacks inflicted severe psychological suffering. While those attacks were contrary to international law and must cease, Israel’s response must itself comply with international humanitarian law.

In the conduct of military operations, Mr. Holmes said, constant care must be taken to spare civilian populations from the effects of hostilities. For those launching attacks, that included doing everything feasible to verify that the objectives were neither civilians nor civilian objects and refraining from indiscriminate attacks. For those in defence, it meant removing civilians and civilian objects from the vicinity of military objectives and avoiding locating military objectives within or near densely populated areas. Looking at what had been happening in Gaza in the past three weeks, neither Israel nor Hamas had come close to respecting those rules.

Other situations raised profound concerns over the degree of respect for those rules and for international humanitarian law. A catastrophic situation had unfolded in August 2008 around Goma, in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, where civilians had found themselves in the worst of all worlds: subject to attacks, displacement, sexual violence and forced recruitment perpetrated by advancing rebel forces; and to acts of violence, rape and looting carried out by members of the armed forces and rebel militias. Civilians were at risk in southern Sudan, Somalia, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka. If the international community was serious about sparing civilian lives, obtaining access to those in need and ensuring the safety of humanitarian workers, humanitarian actors must have sustained dialogue with all parties to conflict, be it the Taliban, Hamas or Al-Shabaab. It was simply not sufficient to oppose such engagement for fear that it would confer a degree of recognition on those groups.

Representatives of 45 Member States addressed the ensuing debate.

At the end of the debate, Mr. Holmes gave the latest figures regarding Palestinian casualties and injuries in Gaza, as provided by the Palestinian Ministry of Health: 1,013 dead, including 322 children and 76 women.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 14 January [meeting 6066], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement S/PRST/2009/1 on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to the full and effective implementation of its resolutions on the protection of civilians in armed conflict and recalls previous statements on the issue made by its President.

The Council remains committed to addressing the impact of armed conflict on civilians. The Council expresses its deepest concern that civilians continue to account for the majority of victims of acts of violence committed by parties to armed conflict, including as a result of deliberate targeting, indiscriminate and excessive use of force, use of civilians as human shields and of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as all other acts that violate applicable international law. The Council condemns all violations of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law, committed against civilians in situations of armed conflict. The Council demands that all relevant parties immediately put an end to such practices. The Council reaffirms in this regard that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians and to meet their basic needs, including by giving attention to the specific needs of women and children.

The Council recalls the obligations of all States to ensure respect for international humanitarian law, including the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and once again emphasizes the responsibility of States to comply with their obligations to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of international humanitarian law.

The Council recognizes the needs of civilians under foreign occupation and stresses further, in this regard, the responsibilities of the occupying Power.

The Council condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, however and by whomever committed.

The Council underlines the importance of safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and of the timely, safe and unhindered passage of essential relief goods, to provide assistance to civilians in armed conflict in accordance with applicable international law. The Council stresses the importance of upholding and respecting the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

Recalling that on 15 March 2002, the Council first adopted the aide-memoire annexed to the statement by its President as a means to facilitate its consideration of issues pertaining to the protection of civilians and recalling further that in the statements by its President of 20 December 2002 and 15 December 2003, the Council expressed its willingness to update the aide-memoire regularly in order to reflect emerging trends in the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the Council adopts the updated aide-memoire contained in the annex to the present statement by its President.
The Council reiterates the importance of the aide-memoire as a practical tool that provides a basis for improved analysis and diagnosis of key protection issues, particularly during deliberations on peacekeeping mandates, and stresses the need to implement the approaches set out therein on a more regular and consistent basis, taking into account the particular circumstances of each conflict situation, and undertakes to remain actively seized of the matter.

ANNEX
Protection of civilians in armed conflict
Aide-memoire
For the consideration of issues pertaining to the protection of civilians in armed conflict

Enhancing the protection of civilians in armed conflict is at the core of the work of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security. In order to facilitate the Council’s consideration of protection of civilians concerns in a given context, including at the time of the establishment or renewal of peacekeeping mandates, in June 2001 members of the Council suggested that an aide-memoire, listing the relevant issues, be drafted in cooperation with the Council. On 15 March 2002, the Council adopted the aide-memoire as a practical guide for its consideration of issues pertaining to the protection of civilians and agreed to review and update its contents periodically. It was subsequently updated and adopted as an annex to the presidential statement of 15 December 2003.

This is the third edition of the aide-memoire and is based on the previous deliberations of the Council on the protection of civilians, including resolutions 1265(1999), 1296(2000), 1674(2006) and 1738(2006). It is the result of consultation between the Council and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, as well as between the Office and concerned United Nations departments and agencies, and other relevant humanitarian organizations.

The aide-memoire is intended to facilitate the Council’s consideration of issues relevant to the protection of civilians in armed conflict. To this end, it highlights primary objectives for Council action; offers, on the basis of the Council’s past practice, specific issues for consideration in meeting those objectives; and provides, in the addendum, a selection of agreed language from Council resolutions and presidential statements that refer to such concerns.

Bearing in mind that each peacekeeping mandate has to be elaborated on a case-by-case basis, the aide-memoire is not intended as a blueprint for action. The relevance and practicality of the various measures described has to be considered and adapted to the specific conditions in each situation.

Most frequently, civilians are caught in circumstances of dire need where a peacekeeping operation has not been established. Such situations may require urgent attention by the Council. The present aide-memoire may, therefore, also provide guidance in circumstances where the Council may wish to consider action outside the scope of a peacekeeping operation.

I. General protection concerns pertaining to the conflict-affected population

A. Protection of, and assistance to, the conflict-affected population

Parties to armed conflict to take the necessary measures to protect and meet the basic needs of the conflict-affected population

Issues for consideration:
— Stress the responsibility of parties to armed conflict to respect, protect and meet the basic needs of civilian populations within their effective control.
— Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, acts of violence or abuses committed against civilians in situations of armed conflict in violation of applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law.
— Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law, including with regard to:
  • The prohibition against violence to life and person, in particular murder, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture; enforced disappearances; outrages upon personal dignity; rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization, and any other form of sexual violence.
  • The prohibition against arbitrary deprivation of liberty; corporal punishment; collective punishment; and the passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all judicial guarantees which are generally recognized as indispensable.
  • The prohibition against the taking of hostages.
  • The prohibition against ordering the displacement of the civilian population for reasons related to the conflict, unless the security of the civilians involved or imperative military reasons so demand.
  • The prohibition against the recruitment or the active use of children in hostilities by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law.
  • The prohibition against slavery and the slave trade in all their forms and uncompensated or abusive forced labour.
  • The prohibition against wilfully impeding relief supplies as provided for under international humanitarian law.
  • The prohibition of persecution on political, religious, racial or gender grounds.
  • The prohibition of any adverse distinction in the application of international humanitarian law and human rights law based on race, colour, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or social origin, wealth, birth or other status.
  • The obligation to respect and protect, to whichever party they belong, the wounded and sick, to take all possible measures, particularly after an engagement, to search for and collect the wounded and sick and to provide, to the full-
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To refrain from, and take the necessary measures to prevent and respond to, the displacement of the civilian population

Issues for consideration:

— Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, displacement in violation of applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law.
— Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law, including with regard to:
  • The prohibition against deportation, forcible transfer or displacement of the civilian population, in whole or in part, unless the security of the civilians concerned or imperative military reasons so demand.
  • The obligation, in case of displacement, to ensure to the greatest practicable extent that the civilians concerned are received under satisfactory conditions of shelter, hygiene, health, safety and nutrition and that members of the same family are not separated, and that basic needs are met during displacement.
  • The right to freedom of movement and to leave one’s country and seek asylum.
  • The right to non-refoulement under the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the protection of which does not extend to any person with respect to whom there are serious reasons for considering that she or he has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.
— Underline the primary responsibility of States to respect and maintain the security and civilian character of camps for refugees and internally displaced persons, including disarming armed elements, separating combatants, curbing the flow of small arms in camps and preventing recruitment by armed groups in and around camps.
— Mandate United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council to take all feasible measures to ensure security in and around such camps for refugees and internally displaced persons as a specific aspect of the report.
— Urge relevant regional and/or subregional bodies to develop and implement policies, activities and advocacy for the benefit of internally displaced persons around such camps and for their inhabitants.
— Request that reports of the Secretary-General on country-specific situations include the protection of civilians as a specific aspect of the report; and request the development of mission-specific strategies and plans of action, in consultation with United Nations country teams, for enhancing the protection of civilians that take into account the needs of different population groups, including internally displaced persons and refugees, women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities.
— Request that reports of the Secretary-General on country teams, for enhancing the protection of civilians that take into account the needs of different population groups, including internally displaced persons and refugees, women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

B. Displacement

Parties to armed conflict and other relevant actors to refrain from, and take the necessary measures to prevent and respond to, the displacement of the civilian population

Issues for consideration:

— Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, displacement in violation of applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law.
— Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law, including with regard to:
  • The prohibition against deportation, forcible transfer or displacement of the civilian population, in whole or in part, unless the security of the civilians concerned or imperative military reasons so demand.
  • The obligation, in case of displacement, to ensure to the greatest practicable extent that the civilians concerned are received under satisfactory conditions of shelter, hygiene, health, safety and nutrition and that members of the same family are not separated, and that basic needs are met during displacement.
  • The right to freedom of movement and to leave one’s country and seek asylum.
  • The right to non-refoulement under the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the protection of which does not extend to any person with respect to whom there are serious reasons for considering that she or he has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.
— Urge relevant regional and/or subregional bodies to develop and implement policies, activities and advocacy for the benefit of internally displaced persons and refugees.

Safe, voluntary and dignified return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons

Issues for consideration:

— Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law, refugee law and human rights law, including with regard to:
  • Respect for the right of refugees and displaced persons to voluntary return in safety and dignity to their homes.
  • Respect for the property rights of refugees and displaced persons, without adverse distinction on the basis of gender, age or other status.
— Affirm in relevant resolutions the right of refugees and displaced persons to voluntary, safe and dignified return to their homes.
— Call upon all parties concerned to create the conditions conducive to allowing voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return, inter alia, by concluding agreements and/or adopting measures designed to facilitate return, and by promoting favourable conditions for the reconstruction and economic and social development of areas of return.
— Call upon all parties concerned to ensure non-discriminatory treatment of returning refugees and internally displaced persons.
— Call upon all parties concerned to ensure the participation of refugees and internally displaced persons and inclusion of their needs, including their right to voluntary, safe and dignified return and reintegration, in all peace processes, peace agreements and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction planning and programmes.
— Encourage United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Coun-
C. Humanitarian access and safety and security of humanitarian workers

Parties to armed conflict to agree to and facilitate relief operations that are humanitarian and impartial in character and to allow and facilitate rapid and unimpeded passage of relief consignments, equipment and personnel

Issues for consideration:

—Encourage United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council, as appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, to prevent the illegal appropriation and confiscation of land and property belonging to refugees and internally displaced persons and to ensure the protection of returning refugees and internally displaced persons.

—Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law.

—Mandate United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council, as appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, to prevent the illegal appropriation and confiscation of land and property belonging to refugees and internally displaced persons and to ensure the protection of returning refugees and internally displaced persons.

D. Conduct of hostilities

Parties to armed conflict to take all feasible precautions to spare civilians from the effects of hostilities

Issues for consideration:

—Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, all acts of violence or abuses committed against civilians in violation of applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law.

—Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law, including the prohibitions against:
  - Directing attacks against the civilian population or against individual civilians not directly taking part in hostilities.
  - Directing attacks against civilian objects.
  - Launching an attack that is indiscriminate, i.e., of a nature to strike military objectives and civilians or civilian objects without distinction.
  - Launching an attack which may be expected to cause incidental loss of life or injury to civilians or damage to civilian objects or a combination thereof which would be excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated.
  - Directing attacks against personnel, installations, material, units or vehicles involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as long as they are entitled to the protection given to civilians or civilian objects under international humanitarian law.
  - Utilizing the presence of a civilian or other protected person to render certain points, areas or military forces immune from military operations.
  - Rape and other forms of sexual violence.
  - Damage to civilian infrastructure.
  - Directing attacks against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, historical monuments, hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided they are not military objectives.
  - Directing attacks against buildings, material, medical units and transport, and personnel using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions in conformity with international law.
  - Destroying or seizing the property of the adversary unless required by military necessity.
• Using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare by depriving them of objects indispensable to their survival, including wilfully impeding relief supplies as provided for under applicable international humanitarian law.

—Request regular reporting by United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council on concrete steps taken to ensure the protection of the civilian population in the conduct of hostilities and on measures to ensure accountability for violations of applicable international humanitarian law.

E. Small arms and light weapons, mines and explosive remnants of war

Protection of the civilian population through the control of, and reduction in the availability of, illicit small arms and light weapons

Issues for consideration:

—Request States and regional and subregional organizations to adopt measures to curb and reduce illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, such as voluntary collection and destruction; effective stockpile management; arms embargoes; sanctions; and legal measures against corporate actors, individuals and entities involved in such activities.

—Encourage strengthened practical cooperation between United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council aimed at monitoring and preventing the cross-border movement of small arms and light weapons.

—Mandate United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council to collect and dispose of or secure illicit and/or surplus small arms and light weapons as well as surplus ammunition stockpiles.

—Consider imposing arms embargoes and other measures aimed at preventing the sale or supply of arms and related materiel of all types to parties to armed conflict that commit violations of applicable international law.

—Encourage strengthened practical cooperation among relevant sanctions monitoring groups of the Security Council peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Council and States.

—Request the establishment of a baseline arms inventory as well as arms marking and registration systems in situations where a United Nations arms embargo coincides with disarmament, demobilization and reintegration efforts.

Protection of the civilian population through the marking, clearance, removal or destruction of mines and explosive remnants of war, including cluster munition remnants

Issues for consideration:

—Call upon parties to armed conflict, after the cessation of active hostilities and as soon as feasible, to mark, clear, remove or destroy mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) in affected territories under their control, prioritizing areas affected by mines and ERW which are assessed to pose serious humanitarian risk.

—Call upon parties to armed conflict to record and retain information on the use of mines and explosive ordnance or the abandonment of explosive ordnance, to facilitate rapid marking and clearance, removal or destruction of mines and ERW and risk education, and to provide the relevant information to the party in control of, and civilian populations in, the territory.

—Call upon parties to armed conflict to take all feasible precautions in the territory under their control affected by mines and ERW to protect the civilian population, in particular children, including issuing warnings, undertaking risk education, marking, fencing and monitoring territory affected by mines and ERW.

—Call upon parties to armed conflict to protect United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council, as well as humanitarian organizations, from the effects of mines and ERW and to make available information on the location of mines and ERW that they are aware of in the territory where the mission/organizations are or will be operating.

—Call upon parties to armed conflict, States and other relevant actors to provide technical, financial, material or human resources assistance to facilitate the marking, clearance, removal or destruction of mines and ERW.

—Call upon parties to armed conflict, States and other relevant actors to provide assistance for the care, rehabilitation and economic and social reintegration of victims of ERW and their families and communities.

F. Compliance, accountability and the rule of law

Compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law

Issues for consideration:

—Call upon parties to armed conflict to take appropriate measures to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law and human rights law, including by:
  • Enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility.
  • Training troops on applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law.
  • Vetting armed and security forces to ensure that personnel have a reliably attested record of not having been involved in violations of international humanitarian law or human rights law.

—Consider applying targeted and graduated measures against parties to armed conflict that commit violations of applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law.
Accountability for persons suspected of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes or serious violations of human rights law

Issues for consideration:
—Stress the importance of ending impunity for criminal violations of applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth and national reconciliation.
—Call upon States to comply with their obligations to investigate, search for, prosecute or extradite persons suspected of committing genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of human rights law.
—Stress the need for the exclusion of, and reject any form of, or endorsement of, amnesty for genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, war crimes or other serious violations of human rights in conflict resolution processes and ensure that no such amnesty previously granted is a bar to prosecution before any United Nations-created or assisted court.
—Mandate United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council to promote, in cooperation with relevant States, the establishment of effective arrangements for investigating and prosecuting violations of international humanitarian law or other serious violations of human rights law.
—Request the cooperation of States and United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council in the apprehension and surrender of alleged perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes or other serious violations of human rights law.
—Consider the establishment, in situations where local judicial mechanisms are overwhelmed, of ad hoc judicial mechanisms at the national or international level to investigate and prosecute war crimes and serious violations of human rights law.
—Consider the referral of situations involving genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes to the International Criminal Court.

Protection of civilians through the restoration and enforcement of the rule of law

Issues for consideration:
—Call upon States to ensure equal protection under the law and equal access to justice for victims of violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, including women and children, and to take the necessary measures to ensure the protection of victims and witnesses.
—Mandate United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council to support restoration of the rule of law, including the provision of assistance in monitoring, restructuring and reforming the justice sector.
—Request the rapid deployment of qualified and well-trained international civilian police, justice and corrections experts as a component of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council.
—Call upon States and regional and subregional organizations to provide technical assistance for local police, judiciary and penitentiaries (e.g., mentoring, legislative drafting).

Build confidence and enhance stability by promoting truth and reconciliation mechanisms

Issues for consideration:
—Mandate the establishment of appropriate, locally adapted mechanisms for truth and reconciliation (e.g., technical assistance, funding, reintegration of civilians within communities).
—Request, where appropriate, the establishment by the Secretary-General of commissions of inquiry and similar measures with regard to situations involving genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity or serious violations of human rights law.

G. Media and information

Protection of journalists, other media professionals and associated personnel

Issues for consideration:
—Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, attacks against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel operating in situations of armed conflict.
—Call for compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law and respect for the civilian status of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel as well as their equipment and installations.
—Demand that States take all necessary steps to prosecute those responsible for attacks against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel in violation of applicable international humanitarian law.

Counter occurrences of speech used to incite violence

Issues for consideration:
—Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, incitements to violence against civilians in situations of armed conflict.
—Demand that States bring to justice individuals who incite or otherwise cause such violence.
—Impose targeted and graduated measures in response to media broadcasts inciting genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes or other serious violations of human rights law.
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Promote and support accurate management of information on the conflict

Issues for consideration:
— Urge parties to armed conflict to respect the professional independence of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel.
— Encourage United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council to include a mass-media component that can disseminate information about international humanitarian law and human rights law while also giving objective information about the activities of the United Nations.
— Request relevant actors to provide technical assistance to States in drafting and enforcing anti-hate speech legislation.

II. Specific protection concerns arising from Security Council discussions on children affected by armed conflict

Parties to armed conflict to take the necessary measures to meet the specific protection, health, education and assistance needs of children

Issues for consideration:
— Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, violations and abuses committed against children in situations of armed conflict, including the recruitment or active use in hostilities of children by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law; the killing or maiming of children; rape and other grave sexual abuse of children; abduction of children; attacks against schools or hospitals; and denial of humanitarian access for children.
— Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law relating to children affected by armed conflict.
— Call upon relevant parties to develop and implement concrete time-bound action plans to halt recruitment and use of children, in close collaboration with United Nations peacekeeping missions, United Nations country teams and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.
— Call upon all parties concerned to implement the recommendations of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.
— Request that reports of the Secretary-General on country-specific situations include the protection of children as a specific aspect of the report.
— Call upon all parties concerned to ensure that the protection, rights and well-being of children affected by armed conflict are specifically integrated into peace processes, peace agreements and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction planning and programmes, including measures for family tracing and reunification, the rehabilitation and reintegration of separated children, and the release and reintegration of children associated with armed forces and groups.
— Urge States, United Nations entities, regional and subregional organizations and other concerned parties to take appropriate measures to control illicit subregional and cross-border activities harmful to children, as well as other violations and abuses committed against children in situations of armed conflict in violation of applicable international law.
— Urge relevant regional and/or subregional bodies to develop and implement policies, activities and advocacy for the benefit of children affected by armed conflict.

III. Specific protection concerns arising from Security Council discussions on women affected by armed conflict

Parties to armed conflict and other relevant actors to refrain from, and take the necessary measures to prevent and respond to, sexual violence

Issues for consideration:
— Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, acts of sexual violence committed in the context of, and associated with, armed conflict.
— Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with the rules of international humanitarian law and human rights law prohibiting rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization or any other form of sexual violence.
— Call upon parties to armed conflict to take appropriate measures to refrain from, prevent and protect all persons from all forms of sexual violence, including by:
  • Enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility.
  • Training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence.
  • Debunking myths that fuel sexual violence.
  • Vetting armed and security forces to ensure that personnel have a reliably attested record of not having been involved in the perpetration of rape and other forms of sexual violence.
  • Evacuating to safety civilians under imminent threat of sexual violence.
— Request that reports of the Secretary-General on country-specific situations include sexual violence as a specific aspect of the report, including, to the extent possible, disaggregated data as to gender and age of victims; and request the development of mission-specific strategies and plans of action for preventing and responding to sexual violence, as part of a broader protection of civilians strategy.
— Urge relevant regional and/or subregional bodies to develop and implement policies, activities and advocacy for the benefit of civilians affected by sexual violence.
— Request troop- and police-contributing countries to deploy higher numbers of women peacekeepers or police, and to ensure the provision of appropriate train-
ing to their personnel participating in United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions on the protection of civilians, including women and children, and the prevention of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations.

**Parties to armed conflict to take the necessary measures to meet the specific protection, health and assistance needs of women and girls**

Issues for consideration:

— Condemn, and call for the immediate cessation of, violations and abuses committed against women and girls in situations of armed conflict.

— Call for strict compliance by parties to armed conflict with applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law relating to the protection of women and girls affected by armed conflict.

— Call upon all parties concerned to ensure that the protection, rights and well-being of women and girls affected by armed conflict are specifically integrated into all peace processes, peace agreements and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction planning and programmes.

— Include specific provisions for the protection of women and girls in the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions authorized by the Security Council.

— Request that reports of the Secretary-General on country-specific situations include the protection of women and girls as a specific aspect of the report.

— Urge relevant regional and/or subregional bodies to develop and implement policies, activities and advocacy for the benefit of women and girls affected by armed conflict.

**Equal participation and full involvement of women in the prevention and resolution of armed conflict**

Issues for consideration:

— Urge States, United Nations entities, regional and subregional organizations and other concerned parties to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict.

— Call upon all actors involved in negotiating and implementing peace agreements to adopt a gender perspective, including by considering:
  - The needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction.
  - Measures that support local women’s peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution, and that involve women in the implementation mechanisms of peace agreements.
  - Measures that ensure the protection of, and respect for, the human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary.

— Urge the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys to ensure the participation of women in discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding, and encourage all parties to such talks to facilitate the equal and full participation of women at all decision-making levels.

— Ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women and girls, including through consultation with local and international women’s groups.

— Urge troop- and police-contributing countries to expand the role, numbers and contribution of women in United Nations operations, and especially among military observers and civilian police.

**Sexual exploitation and abuse**

Issues for consideration:

— Urge humanitarian and development organizations to take appropriate action to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse by their personnel, including predeployment and in-theatre awareness training and, in the case of United Nations actors, to promote and ensure compliance, including by civilian staff of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions, with the Secretary-General’s bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

— Urge troop- and police-contributing countries to take appropriate action to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse by their personnel, including predeployment and in-theatre awareness training to promote and ensure compliance with the Secretary-General’s bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

— Urge troop- and police-contributing countries to ensure full accountability in cases of sexual exploitation and abuse involving their personnel and to report to the Secretary-General on action taken.

An addendum to the statement provided a selection of agreed language.

**Report of Secretary-General.** In response to presidential statement S/PRST/2008/18 [YUN 2008, p. 795], the Secretary-General, in May, submitted a report [S/2009/277] on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, in which he noted that, since the subject had been placed on the Council’s agenda 10 years earlier [YUN 1999, p. 647], further efforts to strengthen the protection of civilians remained crucial as actions on the ground had not matched the progress in words and the development of international norms and standards. Common to old and new conflicts alike were persistent and sometimes appalling levels of human suffering owing to the fundamental failure of parties to respect their obligations to protect civilians. That failure demanded a reinvigorated commitment by the Security Council, Member States and the United Nations to the protection of civilians and the promotion of respect for the principles of international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law on which the concept was founded. That
commitment required determined action to meet five core challenges: enhancing compliance with international law by parties to conflict, particularly in the conduct of hostilities; enhancing compliance with the law by non-State armed groups; enhancing protection through more effective and better resourced peacekeeping; enhancing humanitarian access; and enhancing accountability for violations of the law.

To promote systematic compliance with the law, the Council should use all available opportunities to condemn violations and demand compliance by parties with their obligations; publicly threaten and, if necessary, apply targeted measures against the leadership of parties that consistently defied those demands and routinely violated their obligations to respect civilians; and systematically request reports on violations and consider mandating commissions of inquiry—including with a view to identifying those responsible and either prosecuting them or referring the situation to the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Among measures to enhance compliance by non-State armed groups, a first useful step might be to convene an “Arria formula” meeting to discuss the experience of United Nations and non-governmental actors in working with such armed groups, and to identify additional measures that the Council and Member States could take to improve compliance. The inclusion of protection activities within the mandates of UN peacekeeping and other missions had been a significant development in the Council’s efforts to improve protection on the ground. To that end, more missions were beginning to develop mission-specific protection strategies and action plans.

With respect to humanitarian access, the Council should consistently call for the immediate removal of impediments to humanitarian access that violated international humanitarian law, requesting strict compliance by all parties with their obligations to allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of relief consignments, equipment and personnel. The Council was also urged to address attacks and other violations against humanitarian workers, including the application of targeted measures against individuals responsible for such attacks and the referral of grave instances to the ICC.

To enhance accountability, Member States should prosecute those suspected of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, provide training to combatants on international humanitarian law and human rights law and adopt legislation to prosecute persons suspected of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other serious violations of human rights law. The Council was urged to insist that Member States cooperate fully with the ICC and enforce such cooperation through targeted measures.

The Secretary-General concluded that the last 10 years had provided a tantalizing sense of the potential of the protection of civilians agenda. The task was to take the necessary steps to fully realize that potential and meet the five core challenges identified in the report. The recommendations of the report were premised on the need to enhance compliance and accountability in conflict—compliance by all parties with the applicable law and the demands of the Security Council, and accountability for those individuals and parties that failed to comply. The Council had the tools required to take forward the recommendations of the report. In practice, that entailed consistent application of the aide-memoire on the protection of civilians annexed to presidential statement S/PRST/2009/1; regular meetings of the Security Council Expert Group on the Protection of Civilians prior to establishing or renewing peacekeeping mandates; consistent condemnation of violations of the law by all parties to conflict, without exception; ensuring of compliance through targeted measures, commissions of inquiry and referral of situations to the ICC; and timely deployment of peacekeeping missions or additional temporary capacity with robust protection mandates.

**Security Council consideration (June).** On 26 June, the Council held a day-long debate [meeting 6151] to discuss the Secretary-General’s report, hearing a briefing by Mr. Holmes, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, who gave a detailed account of the sufferings of millions of civilians trapped in armed conflict or forced into flight. He said that, despite progress in the past 10 years, particularly with respect to the Council’s involvement, the situation on the ground remained largely unchanged. Civilians continued to bear the brunt of the armed conflicts, and much greater efforts were required to enhance compliance with the applicable laws and accountability on the part of those who failed to do so.

During the ensuing debate, in which more than 40 delegations participated, speakers stressed the need for all parties to conflict to respect international humanitarian law and provide safe and unhindered access for humanitarian aid.

**Security Council consideration (November).** On 11 November [meeting 6216], the Security Council held a day-long meeting on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. The Council had before it a concept paper [S/2009/567] submitted by Austria.

Opening the discussion, the Secretary-General welcomed the prominent place that the protection of civilians had assumed on the Council’s agenda, noting, however, that much remained to be done to effectively protect civilians in all conflicts. Appalling levels of human suffering pointed to a fundamental failure
of the parties to respect their obligations to protect civilians. Such a failure demanded a reinvigorated commitment to the principles of international law on the part of the Security Council, Member States and the United Nations.

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Holmes deplored the gap between the rules of international humanitarian law and their application, as well as the gap between the protection mandates of some peacekeeping missions and the subsequent reality. It was crucial to develop operational guidance for that purpose, based on the understanding that protection involved a broad range of activities, from the return of refugees to strengthening the host State’s ability to protect its own population. The Council needed a consistent approach to accountability issues, encouraging States to give top priority to the protection of civilians and calling them to account when they did not, on the basis of the facts rather than political convenience.

Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights Kyung-wha Kang said that the authority of international law and the obligations of the parties to conflict could not be replaced by more amorphous notions of protection, or by less obligatory notions of charitable action. Where conflict entailed abuse of human rights, the international community must act to identify the facts and apply the law. Law without enforcement was of little moment to would-be perpetrators, and the Council should ensure accountability for perpetrators of war crimes, crimes against humanity and other gross violations.

Representatives of 56 Member States addressed the ensuing debate.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 11 November [meeting 6216], the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1894(2009). The draft [S/2009/582] was submitted by Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Moldova, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States.

The Security Council,


Reaffirming its commitment also to the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations as set out in Article 1, paragraphs 1 to 4, and to the principles of the Charter as set out in Article 2, paragraphs 1 to 7, including its commitment to the principles of the political independence, sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States, and respect for the sovereignty of all States,

Noting that 2009 marks the tenth anniversary of the progressive consideration by the Security Council of the protection of civilians in armed conflict as a thematic issue, and acknowledging the enduring need for the Council and Member States to strengthen further the protection of civilians in armed conflict,

Noting also that 2009 also marks the sixtieth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, which, together with the Additional Protocols thereto, constitute the basis for the legal framework for the protection of civilians in armed conflict,

Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory, as provided for by relevant international law,

Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians,

Reaffirming also the relevant provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome regarding the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including paragraphs 138 and 139 thereof regarding the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity,

Reiterating its deep regret that civilians continue to account for the vast majority of casualties in situations of armed conflict,

Stressing the particular impact that armed conflict has on women and children, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as on other civilians who may have specific vulnerabilities, including persons with disabilities and older persons, and stressing the protection and assistance needs of all affected civilian populations,

Noting the adoption on 23 October 2009 of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa,

Noting with grave concern the severity and prevalence of constraints on humanitarian access, as well as the frequency and gravity of attacks against humanitarian personnel and objects and the significant implications of such attacks for humanitarian operations,

Recognizing the need for States in or emerging from armed conflict to restore or build accountable security institutions and independent national judicial systems,

Recalling the inclusion of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide in the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and emphasizing in this regard the principle of complementarity,

Recognizing the importance of reparations programmes in response to serious violations of international humanitarian law and gross human rights violations,
Recognizing also the importance of empowering vulnerable civilians through education and training as a means to support efforts to halt and prevent abuses committed against civilians in situations of armed conflict,

Recognizing further the valuable contribution to the protection of children in armed conflict of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, including the conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group issued in line with resolution 1612(2005), and recalling resolution 1882(2009), which aims to strengthen the protection of children in situations of armed conflict,

Recalling its decision, in resolution 1888(2009), to address violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict by requesting the Secretary-General to appoint a special representative and to identify and take the appropriate measures to deploy rapidly a team of experts to situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict,

Noting the practice of briefings by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to members of the Council on behalf of the United Nations humanitarian community, through both formal and informal channels,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 29 May 2009 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict and the annex thereto, on constraints on humanitarian access, in which the core challenges to the effective protection of civilians are identified, namely, enhancing compliance with international law, enhancing compliance by non-State armed groups with their obligations under international law, enhancing protection through more effective and better resourced United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions, enhancing humanitarian access, and enhancing accountability for violations.

Welcoming the proposals, conclusions and recommendations on the protection of civilians included in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group and the important work conducted by the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations, including its efforts aimed at enhancing the implementation of protection mandates,

Recalling the statement by its President of 5 August 2009, and welcoming ongoing efforts to strengthen United Nations peacekeeping,

Noting that United Nations peacekeeping missions constitute one of several means at the disposal of the United Nations to protect civilians in situations of armed conflict,

1. Demands that parties to armed conflict comply strictly with the obligations applicable to them under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and implement all relevant decisions of the Security Council, and in this regard urges them to take all measures required to respect and protect the civilian population and meet its basic needs;

2. Reiterates its condemnation in the strongest terms of attacks in situations of armed conflict directed against civilians as such and other protected persons or objects as well as indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks and the utilization of the presence of civilians to render certain points, areas or military forces immune from military operations, as flagrant violations of international humanitarian law, and demands that all parties immediately put an end to such practices;

3. Notes that the deliberate targeting of civilians as such and other protected persons, and the commission of systematic, flagrant and widespread violations of applicable international humanitarian and human rights law in situations of armed conflict may constitute a threat to international peace and security, and reaffirms in this regard its readiness to consider such situations and, where necessary, to adopt appropriate steps;

4. Reiterates its willingness to respond to situations of armed conflict where civilians are being targeted or humanitarian assistance to civilians is being deliberately obstructed, including through the consideration of appropriate measures at the disposal of the Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

5. Reiterates its call upon States that have not already done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the relevant instruments of international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and to take appropriate legislative, judicial and administrative measures to implement their obligations under those instruments;

6. Demands that all States and parties to armed conflict fully implement all relevant decisions of the Council and in this regard cooperate fully with United Nations peacekeeping missions and country teams in the follow-up to and implementation of those decisions;

7. Calls upon all parties concerned:

(a) To ensure the widest possible dissemination of information about international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law;

(b) To provide training for public officials, members of armed forces and armed groups, personnel associated with armed forces, civilian police and law enforcement personnel, and members of the judicial and legal professions, and to raise awareness among civil society and the civilian population on relevant international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, as well as on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations, to achieve full and effective compliance;

(c) To ensure that orders and instructions issued to armed forces and other relevant actors are in compliance with applicable international law, and that they are observed, inter alia, by establishing effective disciplinary procedures, central to which must be the strict adherence to the principle of command responsibility to support compliance with international humanitarian law;

(d) To seek, where appropriate, support from United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions, as well as United Nations country teams and the International Committee of the Red Cross and, where appropriate, other members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, on training and awareness-raising on international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law;

8. Emphasizes the importance of addressing in its country-specific deliberations the compliance of parties to armed conflict with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, notes the range of existing methods used, on a case-by-case basis, for gathering information on alleged violations of applicable international law relating to
the protection of civilians, and underlines the importance in this regard of receiving information that is timely, objective, accurate and reliable;
9. Considers the possibility, to this end, of using the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission established by article 90 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions;
10. Affirms its strong opposition to impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and emphasizes in this context the responsibilities of States to comply with their relevant obligations to end impunity and to thoroughly investigate and prosecute persons responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of international humanitarian law in order to prevent violations, avoid their recurrence and seek sustainable peace, justice, truth and reconciliation;
11. Recalls that accountability for such serious crimes must be ensured by taking measures at the national level and by enhancing international cooperation in support of national mechanisms, draws attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international and “mixed” criminal courts and tribunals, and truth and reconciliation commissions, as well as national reparation programmes for victims and institutional reforms, and underlines the role of the Council in ending impunity;
12. Reaffirms the role of the Council in promoting an environment that is conducive to the facilitation of humanitarian access to those in need;
13. Stresses the importance for all, within the framework of humanitarian assistance, of upholding and respecting the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence;
14. Also stresses the importance for all parties to armed conflict to cooperate with humanitarian personnel in order to allow and facilitate access to civilian populations affected by armed conflict;
15. Expresses its intention:
(a) To call upon parties to armed conflict to comply with the obligations applicable to them under international humanitarian law to take all steps required to protect civilians and to facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of relief consignments, equipment and personnel;
(b) To mandate United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions, where appropriate, to assist in creating conditions conducive to safe, timely and unimpeded humanitarian assistance;
16. Also expresses its intention:
(a) To consistently condemn and call for the immediate cessation of all acts of violence and other forms of intimidation deliberately directed against humanitarian personnel;
(b) To call upon parties to armed conflict to comply with the obligations applicable to them under international humanitarian law to respect and protect humanitarian personnel and consignments used for humanitarian relief operations;
(c) To take appropriate steps in response to deliberate attacks against humanitarian personnel;
17. Invites the Secretary-General to continue the systematic monitoring and analysis of constraints on humanitarian access, to include, as appropriate, observations and recommendations in his briefings and country-specific reports to the Council;
18. Recalls its determination to upgrade the strategic oversight of peacekeeping operations, mindful of the important role that peacekeeping operations play for the protection of civilians, reaffirms its support for the efforts made by the Secretary-General to review peacekeeping operations and to provide enhanced planning and support, and renews its encouragement to deepen those efforts, in partnership with troop- and police-contributing countries and other relevant stakeholders;
19. Reaffirms its practice of ensuring that mandates of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions include, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, provisions regarding the protection of civilians, stresses that mandated protection activities must be given priority in decisions about the use of available capacity and resources, including information and intelligence resources, in the implementation of mandates, and recognizes that the protection of civilians when and as mandated requires a coordinated response from all relevant mission components;
20. Reaffirms also the importance of entrusting peacekeeping and other relevant missions that are tasked with the protection of civilians with clear, credible and achievable mandates, based on accurate and reliable information on the situation on the ground and a realistic assessment of threats against civilians and missions, made in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, further reaffirms the importance of a greater awareness in the Council of the resource and field support implications of its decisions, and stresses the necessity of ensuring the execution of the aforementioned mandates to protect civilians in the field;
21. Recognizes the necessity of taking into account the protection needs of civilians, in particular women and children, in situations of armed conflict, in the early phase of mandate drafting and throughout the life cycle of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions, and in this regard underlines the importance of engagement with the countries concerned and of close consultation with the Secretariat, troop- and police-contributing countries and other relevant actors;
22. Recognizes also the need for comprehensive operational guidance on the tasks and responsibilities of peacekeeping missions in the implementation of protection of civilians mandates, and requests the Secretary-General to develop, in close consultation with Member States, including troop- and police-contributing countries, and other relevant actors, an operational concept for the protection of civilians and to report back on progress made;
23. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant actors, to ensure that peacekeeping missions with protection of civilians mandates, in keeping with the strategic plans that guide their deployment, conduct mission-wide planning, predeployment training and senior leadership training on the protection of civilians, and requests troop- and police-contributing countries to ensure the provision of appropriate training of their personnel.
participating in United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions to heighten the awareness of and responsiveness to protection concerns, including training on HIV/AIDS and zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping missions;

24. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant peacekeeping missions with protection mandates incorporate comprehensive protection strategies into the overall mission implementation plans and contingency plans which include assessments of potential threats and options for crisis response and risk mitigation and establish priorities, actions and clear roles and responsibilities under the leadership and coordination of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, with the full involvement of all relevant actors and in consultation with United Nations country teams;

25. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations missions provide local communities with adequate information with regard to the role of the mission and, in this regard, ensure coordination between a United Nations mission and relevant humanitarian agencies;

26. Takes note of practical measures taken by ongoing peacekeeping missions and United Nations country teams to enhance the protection of civilians in the field, and requests the Secretary-General to include best practices in his next report on protection of civilians to the Council;

27. Reaffirms its practice of requiring benchmarks, as and where appropriate, to measure and review progress made in the implementation of peacekeeping mandates, and stresses the importance of including indicators of progress regarding the protection of civilians in such benchmarks for relevant missions;

28. Emphasizes the need for a comprehensive approach to facilitate the implementation of protection mandates by promoting economic growth, good governance, democracy, the rule of law and respect for and protection of human rights, and in this regard urges the cooperation of Member States and underlines the importance of a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approach by the principal organs of the United Nations, cooperating with one another and within their respective mandates;

29. Notes that the excessive accumulation and destabilizing effect of small arms and light weapons pose a considerable impediment to the provision of humanitarian assistance and have the potential to exacerbate and prolong conflicts, endanger civilians and undermine security and the confidence required for a return to peace and stability, calls upon parties to armed conflict to take all feasible precautions to protect the civilian population, including children, from the effects of landmines and other explosive remnants of war, and in this regard encourages the international community to support country efforts in clearing landmines and other explosive remnants of war and to provide assistance for the care, rehabilitation and economic and social reintegration of victims, including persons with disabilities;

30. Reiterates the importance of the aide-memoire on the protection of civilians in armed conflict as a practical tool that provides a basis for improved analysis and diagnosis of key protection issues, particularly during deliberations on peacekeeping mandates, and stresses the need to implement the approaches set out therein on a more regular and consistent basis, taking into account the particular circumstances of each conflict situation;

31. Recognizes the important role of the Secretary-General in providing timely information to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, in particular through thematic and country-specific reports and through briefings;

32. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his reports to the Council on country-specific situations more comprehensive and detailed information relating to the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including on protection-related incidents and actions taken by parties to armed conflict to implement their obligations to respect and protect the civilian population, including information specific to the protection needs of refugees, internally displaced persons, women, children and other vulnerable groups;

33. Also requests the Secretary-General to develop guidance for United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions on reporting on the protection of civilians in armed conflict with a view to streamlining reporting and enhancing monitoring and oversight by the Council of the implementation of protection mandates of United Nations peacekeeping and other missions;

34. Stresses the importance of consultation and cooperation between the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other relevant organizations, including regional organizations, to improve the protection of civilians in armed conflict;

35. Requests the Secretary-General to submit his next report on the protection of civilians in armed conflict by November 2010;

36. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

Special political missions

OIOS audit of management of special political missions

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/261 [YUN 2008, p. 49], the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) conducted an audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) as a follow-up to its previous report [YUN 2006, p. 63]. In its August report [A/64/294], OIOS noted that the main objective of the audit was to determine whether the recommendations contained in its previous report had been implemented, and to assess mitigating controls in place to address some high-risk areas that were identified by the OIOS risk assessment, as well as similar assessments conducted by DPA and the Board of Auditors. Those high-risk areas included internal governance and accountability mechanisms; strategic planning and management; and backstopping of special political missions and the Department’s coordination strategy with partners. The audit also considered findings and recommenda-
tions from other OIOS audits and evaluations of special political missions. Of the 15 recommendations made in the previous OIOS audit, six had been implemented, seven were in progress and two had been closed without implementation, as they had been overtaken by the establishment of the Department of Field Support (DFS).

The audit found that the revision of DPKO’s mandate to reflect its responsibilities for directing the substantive operations of special political missions was nearing completion. The development of a support strategy and service-level agreement between DPA and DFS for providing administrative support to special political missions was still in progress; hence, the OIOS recommendations for providing such services were still in process, and DPA needed to develop standard operating procedures for the start-up planning for such missions to facilitate the deployment of new missions. The OIOS recommendations about improving the quality of the budgets of special political missions had been implemented; however, the development of policies and standard processes and guidelines as a tool for equipping the DPA desk officers to backstop special political missions was also still in progress, and DPA needed to develop standard operating procedures for the start-up planning for such missions to facilitate the deployment of new missions. The OIOS recommendations about improving the quality of the budgets of special political missions had been implemented; however, the control of DPA over the preparation of the budgets of such missions could be improved.

The audit found that DPA did not have a proper performance management system to measure and monitor how effectively the regional divisions and their staff were managing special political missions, the responsibilities of regional divisions and their staff had not been clearly defined, and the development of accountability mechanisms for heads of DPA-led special political missions had not been finalized.

From 1999 to 2009, the budgets of special political missions increased almost tenfold, from $47.5 million to $461.2 million—a threefold increase without the budgets for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)—but there was no corresponding increase in the overall budget of DPA. OIOS also found that the budget of DPA did not distinguish the requirements for managing special political missions from those for other Department activities. As regards large special political missions such as UNAMI, when the Department is, exceptionally, assigned the lead role, it should propose to the General Assembly an appropriate mechanism to use mission posts at Headquarters to ensure that it had stable and adequate capacity for providing backstopping services.

DPA had made some progress in implementing the OIOS recommendations, the report concluded, but more needed to be done to ensure effective and efficient backstopping of special political missions.

**Roster of 2009 political missions and offices**

On 1 January 2009, 12 UN political missions and offices were in operation: 6 in Africa, 4 in Asia and the Pacific and 2 in the Middle East. On 21 December, the Security Council welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA) on 1 January 2010 for a period of one year, to succeed the United Nations Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA). On 26 June 2009, the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) until 31 December, and requested that the Secretary-General establish a United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) to succeed UNOGBIS for an initial 12-month period, beginning on 1 January 2010. Thus, 12 missions and offices were in operation at the end of the year.

Also in Africa, the Council, on 16 January, welcomed the Secretary-General’s proposal [YUN 2008, p. 285] to establish within the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) a dedicated capacity that would include expertise in police and military training, planning for future disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities and security sector reform activities, as well as rule of law and correction components. The Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL) until 30 September 2010, and the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB) until 31 December 2010.

With regard to Asia and the Pacific, the Council renewed the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) to 23 January 2010, UNAMA until 23 March 2010 and UNAMI until 31 December 2010. In the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the United Nations Command continued to implement the maintenance of the 1953 Armistice Agreement [YUN 1953, p. 136].

(For the financing of UN political and peacebuilding missions, see part five, Chapter II.)

**UNPOS**

United Nations Political Office for Somalia


*Mandate:* To monitor the situation in Somalia and keep the Security Council informed, particularly about developments affecting the humanitarian and security situations, repatriation of refugees and impacts on neighbouring countries.

*Special Representative of the Secretary-General:* Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah (Mauritania).

*Strength:* 43 international civilian staff, 15 local civilian staff.
Chapter I: International peace and security

UNOGBIS

United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau
Established: 3 March 1999.
Mandate: To support efforts to consolidate constitutional rule, enhance political dialogue and promote national reconciliation, respect for the rule of law and human rights; assist in strengthening the capacity of national institutions; and support security sector reform.
Representative of the Secretary-General: Joseph Mutaboba (Rwanda).
Strength: 12 international civilian staff, 13 local civilian staff, 2 military advisers, 1 police adviser.

UNSCO

Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East
Established: 1 October 1999.
Mandate: To act as the focal point for the United Nations contribution to the peace process and to enhance UN humanitarian and development assistance.
Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority: Robert H. Serry (Netherlands).
Strength: 29 international civilian staff, 26 local civilian staff.

BONUCA

United Nations Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic
Mandate: To support efforts to consolidate peace and promote national reconstruction and economic recovery.
Representative of the Secretary-General: Sahle-Work Zewde (Ethiopia).
Strength: 24 international civilian staff, 53 local civilian staff, 5 military advisers, 6 police, 3 UN volunteers.

UNSCOL

Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (formerly known as the Office of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for Southern Lebanon)
Mandate: To represent the Secretary-General politically and coordinate UN work in Lebanon.
Special Coordinator for Lebanon: Michael C. Williams (United Kingdom).
Strength: 20 international civilian staff, 51 local civilian staff.

UNOWA

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa
Mandate: To enhance the contribution of the United Nations towards the achievement of peace and security priorities in West Africa.
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Said Djinnit (Algeria).
Strength: 13 international civilian staff, 10 local civilian staff, 4 military advisers.

UNAMA

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
Mandate: To fulfil the tasks and responsibilities entrusted to the United Nations in the Bonn Agreement; promote national reconciliation and rapprochement; manage UN humanitarian relief, recovery and reconstruction activities; and assist in the promotion of the political process.
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Kai Eide (Norway).
Strength: 339 international civilian staff, 1,298 local civilian staff, 17 military observers, 3 police, 53 UN volunteers.

UNAMI

United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
Mandate: To advise, support and assist the Government and the Independent High Electoral Commission on the development of processes for holding elections and referenda, as well as to promote political facilitation, regional dialogue, human rights, and reconstruction and development.
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Ad Melkert (Netherlands).
Strength (staff based in Iraq, Jordan and Kuwait): 321 international civilian staff, 456 local civilian staff, 221 troops, 11 military observers.
UNIPSIL

United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone

Established: 1 October 2008.

Mandate: To provide political support for resolving tensions and threats of potential conflict; monitor and promote human rights, democratic institutions and the rule of law, including efforts to counter transnational organized crime and drug trafficking; consolidate good governance reforms, with a focus on anti-corruption instruments; support decentralization, reviewing the 1991 Constitution and the enactment of legislation; and support the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, the implementation of the Sierra Leone Cooperation Framework and projects supported by the Peacebuilding Fund.

Executive Representative of the Secretary-General: Michael von der Schulenburg (Germany).

Strength: 29 international civilian staff, 29 local civilian staff.

BINUB

United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi

Established: 1 January 2007.

Mandate: To support the Government in its efforts towards long-term peace and stability, focusing on peace consolidation and democratic governance; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration; security sector reform; promotion and protection of human rights and measures to end impunity; and donor and UN agency coordination.

Executive Representative of the Secretary-General: Youssef Mahmoud (Tunisia).

Strength: 125 international civilian staff, 239 local civilian staff, 5 military observers, 10 police, 50 UN volunteers.

UNMIN

United Nations Mission in Nepal


Mandate: To support the peace process by: monitoring the management of arms and armed personnel of the Nepal Army and the Maoist Army; assisting the parties, through a Joint Monitoring Coordinating Committee, in implementing the agreement on the management of arms and armed personnel; assisting in the monitoring of ceasefire agreements; and providing technical assistance to the Election Commission.

Representative of the Secretary-General: Karin Landgren (Sweden).

Strength: 48 international civilian staff, 119 local civilian staff, 72 military observers, 19 UN volunteers.

UNRCCA

United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia


Mandate: To liaise with Governments of the region and other parties on preventive diplomacy issues; monitor and analyse the situation on the ground and provide the Secretary-General with information related to conflict prevention; facilitate coordination and information exchange with regional organizations; and support the efforts of regional coordinators and the UN system in promoting an integrated approach to preventive development and humanitarian assistance.

Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Miroslav Jenča (Slovakia).

Strength: 7 international civilian staff, 13 local civilian staff.

Threats to international peace and security

International terrorism

Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The Secretary-General in 2005 established the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force [YUN 2005, p. 77] to bring together key UN system actors and their partners dealing with counter-terrorism issues.

The General Assembly in 2006, by resolution 60/288 [YUN 2006, p. 66], adopted the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy—a common strategic approach to fight terrorism worldwide. The Strategy welcomed the Secretary-General’s intention to institutionalize the Task Force within the Secretariat in order to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the UN system’s counter-terrorism efforts.

On 24 December, by resolution 64/235, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary to institutionalize the Task Force.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 24 December [meeting 68], the General Assembly adopted resolution 64/235 [draft: A/64/L.27 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 115].

Institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

The General Assembly, Recalling the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, contained in its resolution 60/288 of 8 September
Requests the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary to finalize the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force without delay in order to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counterterrorism efforts of the United Nations system.

Terrorist attacks in 2009

In 2009, terrorist attacks continued worldwide, resulting in the deaths of hundreds of innocent civilians and injuries to many others. Those attacks were condemned by the Security Council, Member States and the Secretary-General, who called for increased efforts to combat the threat they posed to international peace and security.

Afghanistan

On 11 February [SG/SM/12095], the Secretary-General condemned the acts of terrorism that had occurred on the same day against Government buildings in Kabul, which took the lives of at least 20 innocent civilians and injured many more. The Security Council condemned the attacks in a press statement [SC/9593], noting that the Taliban had claimed responsibility and reiterating that no terrorist act could reverse the path towards peace, democracy and reconstruction in Afghanistan.

On 1 April [SG/SM/12161], the Secretary-General said that he was appalled and saddened by suicide attacks that had occurred on the same day at the Provincial Office near the United Nations Office in Kandahar City, in which two people were reportedly killed and a large number of civilians injured, including one staff member of UNAMA.

On 17 August [SG/SM/12415], the Secretary-General condemned the suicide car bomb attack that had occurred on the same day in a central area of Kabul, in which seven people were reportedly killed and a large number of civilians were injured, including one UN staff member. He expressed concern at the indiscriminate violence days before the presidential and provincial elections scheduled for 20 August.

On 26 August [SG/SM/12425], the Secretary-General expressed shock and dismay regarding the attack that took place in Kandahar the previous evening, causing the death of over 40 civilians and injuring more than 80 others. On the same day the Council members condemned the attack in a press statement [SC/9735], underlining the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of those acts of terrorism to justice.

On 8 October [SG/SM/12529], the Secretary-General condemned the senseless attack that had occurred on the same day in Kabul in the vicinity of the Indian Embassy and the Afghan Ministry of the Interior, which reportedly killed 17 and injured 80 more. On the same day the Council, in a press statement [SC/9763], condemned the terrorist suicide attack, which caused numerous deaths and injuries, including among Afghan civilians and the Embassy’s security personnel, also noting that the Taliban had claimed responsibility for the attacks.

On 28 October [SG/SM/12570], the Secretary-General expressed shock and outrage at the cowardly attack on a guest house in central Kabul that had occurred on the same day, which killed five UN staff members and injured a number of others. He condemned the despicable and brutal killing, for which the Taliban claimed responsibility in an apparent effort to disrupt the second round of the presidential election. The Security Council, in a press statement [SC/9778], condemned the terrorist attack, which caused deaths and injuries among UN staff and members of the Afghan National Security Forces.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 29 October [meeting 6211], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement S/PRST/2009/28 on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council expresses its strong condemnation of the terrorist attack in Kabul on 28 October 2009 and offers its condolences to the Secretary-General and the families of the victims.

The Council condemns in the strongest terms the Taliban, who claimed responsibility for the attack and continue to attempt to destabilize the country.

The Council expresses its strong support for the Secretary-General, his Special Representative for Afghanistan and all United Nations personnel in fulfilling their difficult but important tasks, further expresses solidarity with United Nations staff on the ground, and commends the determination of the United Nations not to be deterred by the tragic incident and to carry on its mission in Afghanistan.

The Council stresses the need to ensure the security of United Nations staff and its support to this end. The Council expresses its support for the measures already taken by the Secretary-General in this regard and looks forward to the further detailed proposals from him.

The Council expresses its solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and its support for the upcoming run-off presidential elections, which should be carried out as scheduled with the continued support of the United Nations.

The Council renews its commitment to assisting Afghanistan on its path towards peace, democracy and reconstruction.
Indonesia

The Secretary-General, in a 17 July press statement [SG/SM/12371], condemned the bombings that occurred on the same day in two hotels in Jakarta.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 17 July [meeting 6164], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement S/PRST/2009/22 on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council condemns the strongest terms the terrorist attacks that occurred in Jakarta on 17 July 2009, causing numerous deaths and injuries. It expresses its deep sympathy and condolences to the victims of these heinous acts of terrorism and to their families, and to the people and Government of Indonesia.

The Council underlines the need to bring the perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice, and affirms its confidence in the Government of Indonesia, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with the Indonesian authorities in this regard.

The Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

The Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. The Council reminds States that they must ensure that measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter.

Iraq

On 13 February [SG/SM/12101], the Secretary-General said that he was appalled by the suicide bomb attack that had occurred on the same day against Shia pilgrims near Baghdad and similar attacks targeting innocent civilians in the past days, which left dozens dead and wounded, including many women and children.

In a 25 April press statement [SC/9643], the Security Council condemned the terrorist attacks in Baghdad and Diyala on 23 and 24 April, which caused numerous deaths and injuries.

On 29 June [SG/SM/12341], the Secretary-General condemned the attacks and assassinations in Baghdad, Kirkuk and Anbar in recent days that killed and wounded a large number of Iraqis.

On 31 July [SG/SM/12392], the Secretary-General condemned the bomb attacks on five Shia mosques that had occurred on the same day in Baghdad, which left dozens dead and wounded, stressing that attacks against places of worship could not be justified by any political or religious cause. Noting that those attacks appeared to be aimed at provoking sectarian strife and undermining stability, he appealed to the Iraqi people to remain steadfast in their efforts to resolve differences through dialogue and achieve national reconciliation.

In a 19 August press statement [SC/9733], Council members condemned the series of terrorist attacks that occurred on that day in Baghdad, which caused numerous deaths and injuries and damage, including at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, other Government ministries and diplomatic missions.

On 26 October [SG/SM/12563], the Secretary-General said that he was shocked and saddened at the double car bombing attacks that had occurred on 25 October near the Iraqi Ministry of Justice and the Baghdad Provincial Governorate Building in central Baghdad, in which hundreds were killed and wounded. He condemned those senseless and indiscriminate acts of violence that targeted the innocent and aimed to disrupt Iraq’s recovery. The Security Council condemned the attacks in a 25 October press statement [SC/9775].

On 16 November, by statement S/PRST/2009/30 (see p. 370), the Council underlined its condemnation of the series of terrorist attacks that occurred on 19 August and 25 October 2009 in Baghdad, which caused numerous deaths, injuries and damage, including to Government institutions.

On 9 December [SC/9810], the Security Council condemned the series of terrorist attacks that occurred on 8 December in Baghdad, causing numerous deaths and injuries and damage.

Iran

On 29 May [SG/SM/12281], the Secretary-General condemned the previous day’s bomb attack in a mosque in the city of Zahedan, which reportedly killed at least 20 people and wounded many others.

On 19 October [SG/SM/12553], the Secretary-General condemned the previous day’s terrorist attacks in the Sistan-Baluchistan province, which resulted in the death of a large number of people and many injured. On 20 October [SC/9770], in a press statement, the Security Council condemned that deadly terrorist attack in the border city of Pishin, causing at least 57 deaths and 150 injuries.
Pakistan

On 2 February [SG/SM/12083], the Secretary-General condemned the attack that had occurred on the same day on two workers of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Quetta, in which one refugee worker was killed and another abducted.

On 5 June [SG/SM/12292], the Secretary-General condemned the bomb attack that had occurred on the same day in a mosque in the Upper Dir district, which reportedly killed at least 30 people; he reiterated his rejection of such indiscriminate and reprehensible acts of violence.

On 16 July [SG/SM/12368], the Secretary-General said that he was shocked and saddened by the killing that had occurred on the same day of a senior UNHCR national staff member, Zill-e-Usman, in the Katcha Garhi camp for displaced people near Peshawar. He condemned the brutal attack on humanitarian personnel working for the well-being of the Pakistani people, in which, in addition, one camp guard was killed and a UN national staff member and a camp guard were injured.

On 18 September [SG/SM/12462], the Secretary-General condemned the suicide car bomb attack that had occurred on the same day at a village market in north-west Pakistan, which reportedly killed more than 30 people and injured dozens.

On 5 October [SG/SM/12516], the Secretary-General condemned the unjustifiable attack that had occurred on the same day at the Office of the World Food Programme (WFP) in Islamabad—a terrible tragedy for the United Nations and the whole humanitarian community in Pakistan. Five WFP staff members were killed in that attack.

On 28 October [SG/SM/12572], the Secretary-General condemned the bomb attack that had occurred on the same day at a market in Peshawar, reportedly killing more than 80 people, many of them women, and injuring more than 160. No cause could justify such inhuman and indiscriminate violence.

Somalia

On 17 September [SG/SM/12457], the Secretary-General expressed shock and outrage by the reported suicide attack that had occurred on the same day against the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) Force Headquarters in Mogadishu, which reportedly killed or wounded a number of AMISOM troops, including at the command level. He condemned the attack on those who were there to help foster peace.

On 3 December [SG/SM/12653], the Secretary-General condemned the suicide attack that had occurred on the same day at a graduation ceremony of medical students in Mogadishu. Reports indicated that at least 15 Somalis had lost their lives, among them three cabinet ministers of the Transitional Federal Government, graduating students and journalists; another minister was severely wounded.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 3 December [meeting 6229], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement S/PRST/2009/31 on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attack on 3 December 2009 in Mogadishu at a graduation ceremony for Somali medical students at Benadir University, which resulted in the death of innocent civilians and the Somali Ministers of Health, Higher Education and Education. This was a criminal attack on people dedicated to building a peaceful, stable and prosperous future for the people of Somalia.

The Council expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of those killed and to those injured in the attack, as well as to the Transitional Federal Government and the people of Somalia.

The Council urges that a thorough investigation be conducted and that the perpetrators of this attack be brought swiftly to justice.

The Council underlines its determination to continue to support the people of Somalia in their quest for peace and reconciliation, and the Transitional Federal Government as the legitimate authority in Somalia, and reiterates its full support for the Djibouti peace process, which provides a framework for reaching a lasting political solution in Somalia.

The Council reaffirms its demand that all opposition groups immediately end attacks, put down their arms, renounce violence and join reconciliation efforts. The Council further calls upon all parties to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law, in particular to respect the security of civilians, humanitarian workers and personnel of the African Union Mission in Somalia.

The Council welcomes the work of the Mission in supporting the casualties of the attack and their relatives. It reiterates its strong support for the Mission and expresses its continued appreciation for the commitment of troops by the Governments of Uganda and Burundi.

The Council reaffirms that Somalia’s long-term security rests with the effective development by the Transitional Federal Government of the National Security Force and the Somali Police Force, within the framework of the Djibouti Agreement and in line with a national security strategy. The Council urges the international community to support the Somali security institutions, in coordination with the Mission, including through training and equipment.
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

In 2009, the United Nations strengthened its efforts to combat and eliminate international terrorism. The General Assembly, having considered the Secretary-General’s report [A/64/161 & Add.1] on measures to eliminate international terrorism, the report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 [A/64/37] and the oral report at the Assembly’s sixty-fourth session [A/C.6/64/SR.14] of the Chairperson of the Working Group established by the Sixth (Legal) Committee, requested, by its resolution 64/118 of 16 December (see p. 1309), that the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) continue enhancing UN capabilities in preventing terrorism. It recognized, in the context of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy [YUN 2006, p. 66] and Security Council resolution 1373(2001) [YUN 2001, p. 61], the Branch’s role in assisting States in becoming parties to and implementing the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism and in strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism.

In resolution 64/38 of 2 December on measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (see p. 522), the Assembly urged Member States to strengthen measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring such weapons, their means of delivery, and materials and technologies related to their manufacture.

In resolution 64/177 of 18 December (see p. 1100), on technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, the Assembly urged Member States to strengthen international cooperation in order to prevent and combat terrorism, including by entering into bilateral and multilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance.


On 19 February [A/63/739-S/2009/114], New Zealand, on behalf of members of the Pacific Islands Forum based in New York, transmitted the conclusions of the regional consultation workshop on measures for the legislative implementation of the legal regime against terrorism in the Pacific region and related technical assistance delivery (Suva, Fiji, 2–3 June 2008).


Counter-Terrorism Committee

In 2009, the Committee established pursuant to Council resolution 1373(2001), known as the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), held 18 formal meetings and 5 informal meetings. The CTC Chairman submitted on 3 February and 27 July its work programmes for the periods from 1 January to 30 June [S/2009/71] and 1 July to 31 December [S/2009/389]. CTC was assisted in its work by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

On 5 October [S/2009/506], the Security Council announced that it had elected Ranko Vilović (Croatia) as Chairman of CTC for the period ending 31 December. On 11 December [S/2009/655], the Secretary-General informed the Security Council of his intention to extend the appointment of Mike Smith (Australia) as CTED Executive Director until 31 December 2010. On 16 December [S/2009/656], the Council took note of that intention.

Report of CTC Acting Chairman (May). Reporting to the Security Council on 26 May [meeting 6128], the CTC Acting Chairman said that stocktaking had allowed CTC to enhance its regular dialogue with Member States and identify areas where the implementation of resolution 1373(2001) was still inadequate. The Committee had continued to organize visits to Member States as a fundamental component of its activities for the effective monitoring of the implementation of resolution 1373(2001). Along with comprehensive visits, CTED’s revised organizational plan envisaged a more flexible approach by allowing shorter visits focused on one or two aspects of the concerned State’s counter-terrorism regime. The plan also laid out the basis for regional visits and for missions that would examine examples of good practice, as well as vulnerabilities.

The Executive Directorate had compiled a technical guide to the implementation of resolution 1373(2001), covering such areas as terrorist financing; border security, arms trafficking and law enforcement; general legal issues, including legislation, extradition, and mutual legal assistance; and human rights aspects of counter-terrorism in the context of resolution 1373(2001).

Interim review (June). Pursuant to resolution 1805(2008) [YUN 2008, p. 71], by which the Security Council had decided to conduct an interim review of CTED, the CTC Acting Chairman, in June, submitted a report [S/2009/289] prepared for that review. The report concluded that the Executive Directorate had
provided the Committee with valuable support and fulfilled the tasks assigned to it. The Committee welcomed the achievements of the Executive Directorate over the 14 months since the adoption of resolution 1805(2008), in particular in deepening its dialogue with Member States in all regions, developing a more proactive strategy to facilitate technical assistance and becoming more engaged with its partner organizations. The Committee recognized that the Executive Directorate had become more consistent in its assessments and was working across all regions in a more harmonized and focused way, and encouraged it to strengthen its capacity to deliver on that crucial aspect of its mandate.

The Security Council conducted the interim review of the work of CTCED on 11 June [A/64/2]. It expressed its appreciation for the work undertaken by the Executive Directorate and supported the content of the report of the CTC Acting Chairman.

Report of CTC Chairman (November). The Chairman of the Committee briefed the Security Council on 13 November [meeting 6217], informing it about the adoption of the interim review of the Executive Directorate, the finalization of the preliminary implementation assessments and the related stock-taking process, as well as about visits to and dialogue with Member States. As for implementation of resolution 1624(2005) [YUN 2005, p. 102], 104 Member States had submitted reports on their implementation of the resolution. The Committee had encouraged those States that had not yet done so to submit the relevant information; it had also encouraged Member States to become parties to and implement the 16 international counter-terrorism instruments.

Implementation of resolution 1373(2001). Resolution 1373(2001) set out a comprehensive agenda of counter-terrorism activities, including steps aimed at bringing to justice perpetrators of terrorist acts as well as those who harboured, aided and supported them. It required States to cooperate on a wide range of counter-terrorism issues and to report to the Committee on their implementation of the resolution. As at 31 July [A/64/2], the Committee had received 711 reports from Member States and other entities. It had also received 100 reports from Member States pursuant to resolution 1624(2005) which called on States to combat terrorism, including prohibiting by law and preventing incitement to commit terrorist acts.

On 3 December, the CTC Chairman submitted the second report of CTC on the implementation of resolution 1373(2001) [S/2009/620], focusing on counter-terrorism legislation, counter-financing of terrorism, law enforcement, border control and international cooperation. The report assessed the implementation of resolution 1373(2001) in regions and subregions, drew conclusions about progress in its implementation and provided recommendations for future action by the Committee.


Nuclear and radiological terrorism

The General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, at its fifty-third session (Vienna, 14–18 September), adopted resolution GC(53)/ RES/11 on nuclear security, including measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism, in which it called upon Member States to provide the necessary support to international efforts to enhance nuclear security through bilateral, regional and international arrangements. It called upon States parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material to work towards its universal adherence, to accelerate the ratification of the amendment to the Convention expanding its scope and to act for the early entry into force of that amendment. It encouraged them to act in accordance with the object and purpose of the amendment until such time as it entered into force, and encouraged States that had not done so to adhere to the Convention and the amendment as soon as possible. The amendment would make it legally binding for States parties to protect nuclear facilities and material in peaceful domestic use, storage and transport; it provided for expanded State cooperation regarding rapid measures to locate and recover stolen or smuggled nuclear material, mitigate any radiological consequences of sabotage, and prevent and combat related offences.

Peacekeeping operations

In 2009, the General Assembly and the Security Council continued to oversee the management and operation of UN peacekeeping missions. The Council addressed key issues pertaining to the overall conduct of those operations and reviewed the individual mandates of several ongoing operations. The Assembly took action on a number of financial and administrative matters.

The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (Dpko) continued to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, whose mandate was to review the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.
Security Council consideration (January). On
23 January [meeting 6075], the Council held a debate
on peacekeeping operations, following an informal
seminar on 22 January organized by France and the
United Kingdom. The two countries also issued a
non-paper on peacekeeping.

The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping
Operations, Alain Le Roy, said that peacekeeping op-
erations were more numerous and widely spread than
at any time in UN history, with mandates that were
both more complex and more robust than ever. UN
peacekeeping was clearly overstretched, both opera-
tionally and politically. With 18 operations deployed
in five continents and with 78,000 military, 11,500
police and 23,500 civilians deployed, the operational
challenge of maintaining full support to all missions
and mounting new ones was far beyond what the Bra-
himi reforms had envisaged. At the same time, many
missions carried out mandates that represented much
more than the deployment of uniformed personnel,
being fundamentally political operations supporting
complex transitions to peace within deeply divided
countries. To ensure that UN peacekeeping remained
a viable and indeed a stronger instrument, it was nec-
essary to begin finding new potential contributors
to peacekeeping. To deploy at high pace into remote
territories, innovative ways should be found to draw
support which only Member States could provide.
On-hand capacities were needed to reinforce missions
if a crisis erupted. In missions where the United Na-
tions had stabilized the peace process but where lack
of peacebuilding investment was threatening gains,
critical resources needed to flow to shore up peace-
keeping. There was a need for a “political surge”—for
intensifying political efforts to support peace pro-
cesses or to help realize peace where it had not been
realized.

The Under-Secretary-General for Field Support,
Susana Malcorra, said that her Department was sup-
porting 16 peacekeeping missions and 18 special po-
titical missions, and administered more than 22,000
staff members. It operated and maintained more than
250 medical facilities, 300 aircraft, 18,000 vehicles
and 40,000 computers. The creation of the Depart-
ment of Field Support (dfs) had led to greater clarity
of purpose and improved focus on service delivery in
the field, becoming “field-centric”. Among the chal-
lenes, she listed finding a more strategic approach
to doing its business; exploring new, more efficient
ways of working; doing it “right and fast”; partnering
with Member States, UN entities, regional organiza-
tions and civil society in meeting the support chal-
gen; and finding a regulatory framework that was
strong yet agile, prudent yet reasonable. To address
those concerns, her Department was developing a
support strategy that would include regional support
hubs rather than attempting to recreate a full support
structure in each and every mission.

Other speakers included the Head of the United
Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, Hédi Annabi;
representatives of major troop contributors (India,
Pakistan, Jordan, Uruguay); and representatives of
the European Union (eu), the African Union (au)
and the Non-Aligned Movement (nam). Participants
welcomed the Franco-British initiative to address the
challenges of peacekeeping, and stressed the need to
reinforce dialogue among the main actors, particularly
with troop-contributing countries, at all stages of the
preparation, conduct and evaluation of operations.

Communication. On 23 February [S/2009/112],
France and the United Kingdom transmitted to the
Security Council an updated version of the United
Kingdom-France non-paper on peacekeeping, which
was revised to take account of the discussion at the
informal seminar on 22 January and the Council
debate on 23 January.

Security Council consideration (June). On 29
June [meeting 6153], the Council held a day-long debate
on the reform of peacekeeping operations, with the
participation of major troop- and police-contributing
countries and including the eu, the au and nam. The
Under-Secretaries-General for Peacekeeping Opera-
tions and Field Support briefed the Council on their
joint review of the UN peacekeeping system and its
expected outcome, in the form of a non-paper entitled
“A new partnership agenda: charting a new horizon
for United Nations peacekeeping”.

The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping
Operations said that the theme of the meeting—the
relationship between the Council and the police-
and troop-contributing countries—reflected the fact
that UN peacekeeping was a global partnership that
brought together the Council, with its legal and poli-
tical authority, with the Member States. In the current
global environment, financial constraints required a
review of the basic models of peacekeeping. The costs,
troop numbers and capability requirements could not
all continue to rise indefinitely.

Dpko and dfs were working jointly on New Ho-
rizon, an initiative to help form a new partnership
agenda for peacekeeping. The initiative focused on
critical peacekeeping tasks and functions requiring a
renewed consensus on issues such as the role of peace-
k eepers in civilian protection; measures to improve
mission design, resourcing and deployment; proposals
on assessing and building the capacities needed for fu-
ture peacekeeping; and a strategy to create a stronger,
more flexible support system.

The Under-Secretary-General for Field Support
noted that the past decade had seen several useful
innovations, including the creation of the Strategic
Deployment Stocks that allowed the United Nations
to equip and supply missions more quickly, and the establishment of a Peacekeeping Reserve Fund allowing for commitment authority of up to $50 million in advance of a Security Council mandate. There was a need for a lighter mission footprint, faster turnaround and greater use of local staff and local suppliers. One way to build capability and performance was to invest more in technology-driven solutions, such as better information analysis, improved communications and higher-performing equipment.

In the debate that followed, in which 35 delegations spoke, many Member States underlined their support for reform initiatives, as well as the need to strengthen coordination and cooperation among the Security Council, the troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat.

Security Council consideration (August). The Council on 5 August held a day-long debate on peacekeeping [meeting 6178] attended by some 20 force and police commanders of UN peacekeeping missions. Opening the debate, Council President John Sawers (United Kingdom) said that in January the United Kingdom and France had launched an initiative that sought to ensure that the Council could play its part to best effect. In the early stages, the focus had been on strategic oversight of peacekeeping, seeking to ensure that mandates were credible, measurable and achievable. The Council had also sought ways to improve information-sharing and consultations with countries contributing troops and police.

The Under-Secretaries-General for Peacekeeping Operations and for Field Support briefed the Council on the non-paper entitled “A new partnership agenda: charting a new horizon for United Nations peacekeeping”, the result of their joint review of the UN peacekeeping system. The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations outlined the recommendations contained in the non-paper, which was part of the New Horizon process to reinvigorate the peacekeeping partnership. The document highlighted the importance of enhanced information-sharing, consultations and communication and effective planning, which depended upon peacekeeping partners indicating clearly and early on where and how they might be able to assist in establishing an operation. The non-paper also examined ways to improve management and oversight, while highlighting the need to strengthen command-and-control systems at every level, including through more robust accountability frameworks.

The Under-Secretary-General for Field Support said that one of the key enablers of the New Horizon initiative would be the support strategy, the overarching goal of which was to provide improved support services with quality, speed and efficiency. Dfs would develop options, outline opportunities to improve and present sound business plans to support the decision process.

In the debate that followed, participants stressed the necessity of a comprehensive reform agenda, featuring all aspects of the peacekeeping machinery, including the political-strategic, administrative, financial and operational aspects.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 5 August [meeting 6178], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement S/PRST/2009/24 on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council reaffirms the recommendations made in its resolutions 1327(2000) and 1353(2001) and in the statements by its President of 3 May and 4 November 1994, 28 March 1996, 31 January 2001 and 17 May 2004 and the note by its President of 14 January 2002 and confirms its intention to strengthen further efforts to implement fully those recommendations. The Council recalls, in particular, from the statement by its President of 3 May 1994, the appropriate factors that should be taken into account when the establishment of a new peacekeeping operation is under consideration.

The Council believes that United Nations peacekeeping is a unique global partnership that draws together the contributions and commitment of the entire United Nations system. The Council is committed to strengthening this partnership. The Council recognizes the important work conducted by the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations of the General Assembly, the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations, the Fifth Committee of the Assembly and the Secretariat to ensure that peacekeeping efforts provide the best possible results.

The Council has endeavoured in the past six months to improve its dialogue with the Secretariat and with troop- and police-contributing countries on the collective oversight of peacekeeping operations and to develop the following practices:

(i) Regular dialogue with the Secretariat on the general challenges of peacekeeping;

(ii) Efforts to deepen consultations with troop- and police-contributing countries, including through the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations and the debates organized on 23 January and 29 June 2009;

(iii) Organization of political-military meetings on specific operations to improve the shared analysis of operational challenges;

(iv) Encouraging regular updating of planning documents by the Secretariat to ensure consistency with mandates;

(v) Improved monitoring and evaluation, through the use of benchmarks, as and where appropriate, that enable progress to be charted against a comprehensive and integrated strategy.

The Council has identified several areas where further reflection is required to improve the preparation,
planning, monitoring and evaluation, and completion of peacekeeping operations:

(i) Ensuring that mandates for peacekeeping operations are clear, credible and achievable and matched by appropriate resources. The Council stresses the need regularly to assess, in consultation with other stakeholders, the strength, mandate and composition of peacekeeping operations with a view to making the necessary adjustments where appropriate, according to progress achieved or changing circumstances on the ground;

(ii) Better information-sharing, particularly on the military operational challenges, through, inter alia, systematic consultation by the Secretariat with Member States in advance of the deployment of a technical assessment mission on its objectives and broad parameters, and debriefing on its main findings on its return. The Council encourages the practice of holding meetings between Council members and the Secretariat at the political-military expert level prior to discussion of mandate renewals. The Council recognizes the need to improve its access to military advice, and intends to pursue its work on mechanisms to that effect. The Council will continue to review the role of the Military Staff Committee;

(iii) The Council intends to increase its interaction with the Secretariat in the early phase of mandate drafting and throughout mission deployment on the military, police, justice, rule of law and peace-building dimensions of an operation;

(iv) Earlier and more meaningful engagement with troop- and police-contributing countries before the renewal or modification of the mandate of a peacekeeping operation. The Council welcomes practical suggestions to deepen such consultations. It recognizes that, through their experience and expertise, troop- and police-contributing countries can greatly contribute to effective planning, decision-making and deployment of peacekeeping operations. In this regard, the Council welcomes the interim report of its Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations and encourages the Working Group to continue to address the issue of cooperation with troop- and police-contributing countries and other stakeholders. The Council commits to making progress on this issue and to reviewing its progress in 2010;

(v) Greater awareness in the Council of the resource and field support implications of its decisions. The Council requests that, where a new peacekeeping mission is proposed, or where significant change to a mandate is envisaged, an estimate of the resource implications for the mission be provided to it;

(vi) Enhanced awareness in the Council of the strategic challenges faced across peacekeeping operations. The Council welcomes the briefings to that effect received from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat since January 2009, which should continue on a regular basis.

The Council recognizes the need to weigh the full range of responses when addressing a situation which may endanger international peace and security, and to deploy United Nations peacekeeping missions only as an accompaniment, not as an alternative, to a political strategy. The Council recognizes the importance of mobilizing and maintaining the political and operational support of all stakeholders.

The Council recognizes the urgent need to increase the pool of available troop and police contributors and welcomes efforts of Member States to coordinate bilateral assistance to them. The Council supports efforts to improve cooperation and coordination throughout the life of a mission with relevant regional and subregional organizations and other partners. The Council recognizes the priority of strengthening the capacity of the African Union, and the role of regional and subregional organizations, in maintaining international peace and security in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Council welcomes efforts by the Secretariat to review peacekeeping operations and to provide enhanced planning and support, and encourages the Secretariat to deepen those efforts. In this regard, the Council takes note of the assessments and recommendations provided in the non-paper entitled ‘A new partnership agenda: charting a new horizon for United Nations peacekeeping’ and the support strategy contained therein, and intends to give them careful consideration.

The Council recognizes that further debate is required among Member States, including in the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, to develop a wider consensus on a range of issues, including the robust approach to peacekeeping and the implementation of protection of civilians mandates. The Council reaffirms the relevant provisions of its resolution 1674(2006) and in this regard looks forward to reviewing the implementation of protection of civilians mandates later in 2009.

The Council recalls the statement by its President of 22 July 2009 on post-conflict peacebuilding and, in particular, re-emphasizes the need for coherence between, and integration of, peacemaking, peacemaking, peacebuilding and development to achieve an effective response to post-conflict situations from the outset. The Council requests the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on specific missions an indication of progress towards achieving a coordinated United Nations approach in-country and, in particular, on critical gaps to achieving peacebuilding objectives alongside the mission.

The Council remains committed to improving further the overall performance of United Nations peacekeeping and will conduct a further review in early 2010.

**General aspects of UN peacekeeping**

**Strengthening operational capacity**

In July, *A New Partnership Agenda: Charting a New Horizon for United Nations Peacekeeping*, developed by DPKO and DFS, was released to UN Member States and peacekeeping partners as part of a process aimed
at assessing the major policy dilemmas facing UN peacekeeping, as well as to reinvigorate the dialogue on possible solutions.

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, at its 2009 substantive session [A/63/19], encouraged the two Departments to engage with troop-contributing countries in the development of the New Horizon initiative and looked forward for close interaction between the Secretariat and Member States. Having discussed extensively the concerns about the use of military utility helicopters in peacekeeping missions, the Special Committee requested that the Secretary-General submit to the General Assembly, before the end of 2009, a report on the current status and developments in the area of aviation safety in UN peacekeeping, including administrative and safety arrangements related to the management and use of military utility helicopters in peacekeeping missions.

Noting the sustained increase of the police dimension in a number of missions, the Special Committee stressed the importance of maintaining an appropriate support capacity at Headquarters to ensure an adequate level of oversight and guidance to the field. It called upon the Secretariat to continue its efforts in developing standard operating guidelines and procedures and guidelines for UN policing. It also took note of the report of the informal open-ended working group on enhanced rapidly deployable capacities [A/AC.121/2009/1], which agreed that the concept was currently not viable, given the lack of appropriate financial arrangements and support from Member States. The Special Committee invited the Secretariat to explore other possibilities until its next session, in order to make the necessary capacities available for UN peacekeeping missions in crisis. It also reiterated the need for the full implementation of the integrated mission planning process.

**Strategies for complex peacekeeping operations**

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations [A/63/19] stressed that peacekeeping operations needed to be complemented with activities aimed at improving the living conditions of the affected populations, including quick implementation of highly effective and visible projects that helped to create jobs and deliver basic social services in the post-conflict phase. The Special Committee gave particular attention to issues relating to peacebuilding and the Peacebuilding Commission; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration; security sector reform; the rule of law; gender and peacekeeping; children and peacekeeping; and HIV/AIDS and other health-related issues.

The Special Committee welcomed the implementation of quick-impact projects by peacekeeping opera-

**Safety and security**

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations [A/63/19] expressed its concern about the precarious security environment prevailing in many peacekeeping missions, calling on the Secretariat to give utmost priority to enhancing the security and safety of UN and associated personnel. Noting that some deployed troop formations were being stretched to cover geographic areas that exceeded their capacities, the Special Committee urged DPKO to ensure that peacekeeping personnel were deployed in accordance with agreed concepts of operation and deployment arrangements. It requested that the Secretariat present a thorough screening and verification policy before hiring local security personnel, including background checks on any criminal and human rights violations of the candidates, as well as links to security companies.

The Special Committee underlined the importance of adequate measures to ensure the safety and security of military and police officers, especially unarmed military observers. Concerned at the loss of lives as a result of the negligence and incompetence of medical staff, it emphasized the responsibility of the United Nations to ensure that medical personnel assigned in mission areas were qualified to provide immediate and proper medical attention to peacekeepers, and to hold them accountable. The Special Committee welcomed progress made in developing the Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres in DPKO-led field missions, and looked forward to completion of the draft guidelines on the Joint Mission Analysis Centres before its 2010 session.

**Conduct and discipline**

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations [A/63/19] reaffirmed the need to ensure that all peacekeeping personnel function in a manner that preserved the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations. It emphasized that the same standards of conduct must be applied to all categories of UN peacekeeping personnel. Violations of those standards would result in appropriate action within the authority of the
Secretary-General, while criminal and disciplinary responsibility in respect of members of national contingents would depend on the national law of the Member State concerned. It reiterated that troop-contributing countries bore the primary responsibility for maintaining discipline among their contingents deployed in peacekeeping missions.

The Special Committee took note of the Secretary-General’s 2007 report on strengthening investigations [YUN 2007, p. 1473] and looked forward to the outcome of the General Assembly’s deliberations on it. In June, the Assembly, by resolution 63/287 (see p. 84), endorsed the principle of restructuring the Investigation Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (oios). It requested that oios undertake a three-year pilot project involving investigation centres based in New York, Nairobi, and Vienna.

Sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peacekeeping operations

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 57/306 [YUN 2003, p. 1237], the Secretary-General, in February, submitted a report [A/63/720] on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, presenting data on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in the UN system during 2008. There were 83 allegations of abuse involving personnel of DPKO and DFC, marking a decrease from 2006 (357) and 2007 (127). Of that number, 34 were considered “egregious” forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, namely sexual exploitation and abuse of minors, including rape. Eighty out of 83 cases had been investigated. Of those involving military personnel, 58 cases had been substantiated; among civilian personnel, 4 cases; and among police and corrections personnel, 8 cases. DPKO and DFC had communicated the results of those investigations to the relevant troop- or police-contributing countries and the individuals were repatriated and barred from future peacekeeping operations. The decrease in the number of allegations could be attributed to increased training and awareness-raising, but a change in how data was being collected in the past few years might also have contributed to the lower number. Nevertheless, there had been an increase in the number of allegations that had been substantiated, particularly allegations involving minors. That situation would be monitored closely. The report also described progress made in enforcing UN standards of conduct related to sexual exploitation and abuse.

On 30 June, the General Assembly deferred consideration of the Secretary-General’s report until its sixty-fourth session (decision 63/550 C).

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. The Special Committee [A/63/19] underlined the gravity of all acts of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and stressed the importance of addressing the needs of victims. The Special Committee recognized the work undertaken by gender advisers in the field and by the DPKO gender trainer. Underlining the need to finalize and implement the gender training strategy, the Special Committee looked forward to working with the Secretary-General in developing and implementing training programmes for all peacekeeping personnel to help them better prevent, recognize and respond to sexual violence and other forms of violence against women and girls.

The Special Committee underlined the importance of implementing the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peacekeeping operations, and welcomed progress made towards the elimination and prevention of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse. However, while noting the continuing decline in the number of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse, the Special Committee regretted that the number of the most egregious allegations had not gone down. It reiterated its suggestion for disaggregating such data according to the type of serious misconduct alleged, to permit a deeper analysis. The Special Committee also welcomed the adoption of General Assembly resolution 62/214 [YUN 2007, p. 1519] containing the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel.

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to resolution 62/214, the Secretary-General in July reported [A/64/176] on action taken to implement the Comprehensive Strategy, which sought to ensure that victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by UN staff and related personnel received appropriate and timely assistance and support in the form of medical care, legal services, support for psychological and social care and immediate material care, including food, clothing and shelter. He reviewed the approach adopted to implement the Strategy, discussed ongoing activities at country and agency levels, identified challenges and lessons learned and provided recommendations on the way forward.

Cooperation with troop-contributing countries

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations [A/63/19] stressed the need to enhance the relationship between those who planned, mandated and managed UN peacekeeping operations and those who implemented the operations’ mandates, with troop-contributing countries involved early and fully in all aspects and stages of those operations. To enhance transparency and effectiveness, the Special Committee urged the Secretariat to circulate in a timely man-
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Cooperation with regional organizations

At its 2009 substantive session [A/63/19], the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations reaffirmed the important contribution that regional arrangements and agencies could make to peacekeeping, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter. It welcomed positive developments in the field of cooperation with regional arrangements or agencies and encouraged the Secretariat to further strengthen those linkages, such as the one with the African Union (au). In that regard, it emphasized the importance of implementing the joint action plan for UN support to the au in peacekeeping in the short, medium and long terms, and the 10-year plan for capacity-building.

Women in peacekeeping

With respect to gender and peacekeeping, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations [A/63/19] emphasized the importance of full and effective implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325(2000) [YUN 2000, p. 1113] and 1820(2008) [YUN 2008, p. 1265] on women and peace and security and of all General Assembly resolutions on the elimination of all forms of violence against women. It underlined the gravity of acts of sexual and gender-based violence, and looked forward to working with the Secretary-General in developing and implementing training programmes to help UN peacekeeping personnel to better prevent, recognize and respond to sexual violence and other violence against women and girls.

The Special Committee acknowledged the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressed the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all peace and security efforts. It urged dpko to continue to develop a comprehensive strategy to increase the participation of women in all aspects and at all levels of UN peacekeeping operations, and to continue to support the implementation and promotion of gender perspectives in peacekeeping activities. It reiterated its concern at the low proportion of women among UN peacekeeping staff at Headquarters and in the field, and encouraged Member States to increase the participation of women among uniformed personnel at all levels.

On 30 September, the Security Council, in resolution 1888(2009) (see p. 1137), on women and peace and security requested the Secretary-General to continue to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peacekeeping operations, also urging troop- and police-contributing countries to provide awareness training and to ensure accountability in cases of such conduct by their personnel.

On 5 October, the Council, in resolution 1889(2009) (see p. 1141), called for a wide range of measures to improve the participation of women at all stages of peace processes.

Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations

In July, the Chairman of the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations submitted to the Council its interim report [S/2009/398], covering its work since the beginning of the year. Since 2002 [YUN 2002, p. 61], the Working Group had been convening joint meetings with troop-contributing countries as a means of promoting closer dialogue among Council members, troop-contributing countries, the Secretariat and significant stakeholders on issues pertaining to peacekeeping operations. In meetings on 25 February, 29 April, 9 and 19 June, and 17 July, the Working Group discussed the formulation of mandates, including protection of civilians; prioritization and streamlining of mandates; resources, including capacity-building; inter-mission cooperation; gaps between mandates and their implementation; and mission planning throughout the whole cycle of the mission.

On 17 December, the Working Group Chairman submitted to the Council a report of the Working Group [S/2009/659] on the enhancement of cooperation with troop-contributing countries, police-contributing countries and other stakeholders. The re-
port summarized the discussion held at four meetings in November and December, with the participation of 30 countries and organizations.

**Oversight activities**

The Office of Internal Oversight Services (oios) reported in February [A/63/302 (Part II)] on its peacekeeping oversight activities in 2008. The Office issued 199 oversight reports related to peace operations, which accounted for 43 per cent of all oios recommendations for the year. They underscored the need for the United Nations to develop a formal internal control framework to ensure that risks were managed consistently and systematically through focused control processes across the Organization. In 2008, 87 out of the 162 audits in the workplan were completed in various focus areas—including financial management; strategic management and governance; safety and security; the management of human resources, information technology, logistics, procurement and contracts, programmes and projects, and properties and facilities. For 14 audits, the field work was completed and the draft reports were being prepared; the field work was in an advanced stage for 22 other audits; 14 audits were in the planning stage; and 10 were carry-overs to 2009.

During 2008, the Investigations Division received 336 reports of possible misconduct regarding peace operations, comprising 54 per cent of all reports made to oios that year. Additionally, the then Procurement Task Force received 17 reports of misconduct regarding peacekeeping matters. That reflected a decrease of 133 reports (28 per cent) of possible misconduct in peace operation-related activities from the previous year. Similarly, the intake on matters relating to sexual exploitation and abuse declined by 44 reports (35 per cent). While those numbers underscored the need for stronger efforts to prevent misconduct, particularly sexual exploitation and abuse, the decline in allegations reflected positively on the concerted efforts of the Organization following the report of the adviser to the Secretary-General on a comprehensive strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peacekeeping operations [YUN 2005, p. 119]. Some of those efforts included alternative reporting mechanisms for prohibited conduct and enhanced local outreach programmes.

A sampling of oios findings revealed that the United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire had generally been able to ensure a secure and stable environment in the country, with a majority of Ivorians appreciating the role of the peacekeeping force in ending the conflict and contributing to stability and security. In the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), oios substantiated reports that a national staff member had abducted and sexually assaulted a local minor; the matter was pending with the Office of Human Resources Management. In the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), oios substantiated reports that a senior military observer had improperly assisted a licensed civilian diamond prospector and others involved in diamond exploration—a matter in which a high-ranking member of a national military contingent was also implicated but who had been repatriated before the commencement of the investigation. Pursuant to oios recommendations, DFS had referred the case to the concerned Member State for appropriate action, but had received no response.

An audit of the management of expendable inventory found that the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) had not established adequate controls over such inventory, valued at $60 million as at 30 June 2008; UNMIL agreed with the oios recommendations and issued guidelines on inventory management which had been implemented as at December 2008. In an audit of the supply of food rations and combat ration packs in MONUC, oios found that the contractor had failed to maintain critical stock levels for some items as required by contract; DFS stated that the contractor had been penalized proportionally for the non-delivery of reserves and lack of the required warehouse space. Oios also found delays in replacing repatriated MONUC police officers, thus reducing the operational capacity of the police and posing the risk of programmed activities not being implemented effectively; the Mission accepted the oios recommendation that it coordinate with DPKO to ensure timely replacements. In addition, it found that MONUC’s information technology-related standard operating procedures, administrative instructions and other policies and procedures were largely incomplete or outdated. MONUC accepted the oios recommendation that it update its information technology policies and procedures and ensure their continuous update.

On 30 June, the General Assembly deferred consideration of the report until its sixty-fourth session (decision 63/550 C).

**Comprehensive review of peacekeeping**

**Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations**

As requested by the General Assembly in resolution 62/273 [YUN 2008, p. 82], the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group continued their comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

The Special Committee held its 2009 substantive session from 23 February to 20 March [A/63/19]. It discussed guiding principles, definitions and im-
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Implementation of mandates, restructuring of peacekeeping, safety and security, conduct and discipline, strengthening operational capacity, strategies for complex peacekeeping operations, cooperation with troop-contributing countries, cooperation with regional arrangements, enhancement of African peacekeeping capabilities, best practices, training, personnel issues and financial matters.

As requested by the Special Committee, the Secretary-General in December reported [A/64/573 & Add.1] on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Committee. He outlined progress made in implementing those recommendations and in restructuring and strengthening UN peacekeeping. He outlined four priority building blocks for future effectiveness: guidance on critical tasks; mobilizing and building the capabilities necessary for high performance in the field; adapting the UN support system to enable performance and the effective use of resources; and stronger planning, management and oversight of missions.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 May [meeting 82], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth (Special Political and Decolonization) Committee [A/63/402/Add.1], adopted resolution 63/280 without vote [agenda item 31].

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 2006(XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,
Recalling in particular its resolution 62/273 of 11 September 2008,
Affirming that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,
Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations,
Considering the contribution that all States Members of the United Nations make to peacekeeping,
Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by Member States, in particular troop-contributing countries,
Bear in mind the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,
1. Welcomes the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;
2. Endorses the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 16 to 180 of its report;
3. Urges Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all necessary steps to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;
4. Reiterates that those Member States that become personnel contributors to the United Nations peacekeeping operations in years to come or participate in the future in the Special Committee for three consecutive years as observers shall, upon request in writing to the Chairman of the Special Committee, become members at the following session of the Special Committee;
5. Decides that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and shall review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;
6. Requests the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;
7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled “Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects”.

On 10 December, the Assembly, by decision 64/519, took note of the report of the Fourth Committee on the comprehensive review of peacekeeping operations [A/64/407].

Operations in 2009

As at 1 January 2009, there were 16 peacekeeping missions in operation—7 in Africa, 1 in the Americas, 2 in Asia, 3 in Europe and the Mediterranean and 3 in the Middle East. During the year, one mission ended, the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, bringing the total number of missions in operation at year’s end to 15.

Africa


Americas

In the Americas, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) until 15 October 2010.

Asia


Europe and the Mediterranean

In Europe and the Mediterranean, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) to 15 June, when a draft resolution that would have extended its mandate for two weeks to allow divergent views to coalesce around a new security regime was vetoed by the Russian Federation. UNOMIG thus ceased to exist at midnight on the same day. The Council extended the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) twice—to 15 December 2009 and to 15 June 2010. The United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), Serbia, remained in place. On 18 November, the Council authorized the Member States acting through or in cooperation with the European Union (EU) to establish, for a further 12-month period, a multinational stabilization force, eufor, in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Middle East

Three long-standing operations continued in the Middle East. The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) continued to monitor ceasefires, supervise armistice agreements and assist other peacekeeping operations in the region. The Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) to 31 December 2009, and that of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to 31 August 2010.

Roster of 2009 operations

**UNTSO**

United Nations Truce Supervision Organization  
*Established:* May 1948.  
*Mandate:* To monitor ceasefires, supervise armistice agreements and assist other peacekeeping operations in the region.  
*Strength:* 151 military observers.

**UNMOGIP**

United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan  
*Established:* January 1949.  
*Mandate:* To supervise the ceasefire between India and Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir.  
*Strength:* 43 military observers.

**UNFICYP**

United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus  
*Established:* March 1964.  
*Mandate:* To prevent the recurrence of fighting between the two Cypriot communities and to contribute to the maintenance and restoration of law and order and a return to normal conditions.  
*Strength:* 855 troops, 66 police.

**UNDOF**

United Nations Disengagement Observer Force  
*Mandate:* To supervise the ceasefire between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic and the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan Heights.  
*Strength:* 1,043 troops.

**UNIFIL**

United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon  
*Established:* March 1978.  
*Mandate:* To restore peace and security and assist the Lebanese Government in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area; expanded in 2006 to include monitoring the cessation of hostilities between Hizbullah and Israel [YUN 2006, p. 584], supporting the deployment of the Lebanese Armed Forces throughout southern Lebanon, helping to ensure humanitarian access to civilian populations and the return of displaced persons, and assisting the Government in securing its borders to prevent the entry of unauthorized arms or materiel.  
*Strength:* 11,862 troops.
MINURSO
United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
Mandate: To monitor and verify the implementation of a settlement plan for Western Sahara and assist in the holding of a referendum in the Territory.
Strength: 27 troops, 199 military observers, 6 police.

UNOMIG
United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia
Established: August 1993.
Mandate: To verify compliance with a ceasefire agreement between the parties to the conflict in Georgia and investigate ceasefire violations; expanded in 1994 [YUN 1994, p. 584] to include monitoring the implementation of an agreement on a ceasefire and separation of forces and observing the operation of a multinational peacekeeping force.
Ended: June 2009.

UNMIK
United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
Established: June 1999.
Mandate: To promote the establishment of substantial autonomy and self-government in Kosovo, perform basic civilian administrative functions, organize and oversee the development of provisional institutions, facilitate a political process to determine Kosovo’s future status, support reconstruction of key infrastructure, maintain civil law and order, protect human rights and assure the return of refugees and displaced persons.
Strength: 9 military observers, 8 police.

MONUC
United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Mandate: To establish contacts with the signatories to the Ceasefire Agreement, provide technical assistance in the implementation of the Agreement, provide information on security conditions, plan for the observation of the ceasefire, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance and assist in the protection of human rights; expanded in 2007 [YUN 2007, p. 119] to include assisting the Government in establishing a stable security environment and supporting the strengthening of democratic institutions and the rule of law.
Strength: 18,646 troops, 705 military observers, 1,158 civilian police.

UNMIL
United Nations Mission in Liberia
Mandate: To support the implementation of the ceasefire agreement and the peace process; protect UN staff, facilities and civilians; support humanitarian and human rights activities; and assist in national security reform, including national police training and formation of a new, restructured military.
Strength: 9,505 troops, 118 military observers, 1,324 police.

UNOCI
United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire
Mandate: To monitor the implementation of the 3 May 2003 comprehensive ceasefire agreement and the movement of armed groups; assist in disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, repatriation and resettlement; protect UN personnel, institutions and civilians; support humanitarian assistance; support implementation of the peace process; assist in the promotion of human rights, public information, and law and order. The mandate was expanded in 2007 [YUN 2007, p. 170] to include assisting in disarming and dismantling militias; identifying the population and organizing elections; reforming the security sector; monitoring the arms embargo; and supporting the redeployment of State administration.
Strength: 7,202 troops, 189 military observers, 1,145 police.

MINUSTAH
United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti
Established: June 2004.
Mandate: To provide support in ensuring a secure and stable environment; support the constitutional and political process; assist in maintaining the rule of law, public safety and public order; promote and protect human rights; and support the political process, promoting an inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation.
Strength: 7,032 troops, 2,025 police.

UNMIS
United Nations Mission in the Sudan
Established: March 2005.
**Mandate:** To support the implementation of the 9 January 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army; facilitate and coordinate humanitarian assistance and the return of refugees and internally displaced persons; assist with demining; and protect and promote human rights. The mandate was expanded in 2006 \[YUN 2006, p. 282\] to support implementation of the May 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement and the 2004 N’djamena Agreement on Humanitarian Ceasefire on the Conflict in Darfur.

**Strength:** 9,093 troops, 476 military observers, 693 police.

**UNMIT**

**United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste**

**Established:** August 2006.

**Mandate:** To support the Government of Timor-Leste in consolidating stability; enhancing a culture of democratic governance; facilitating political dialogue; conducting the 2007 electoral process; establishing a continuous presence in the three border districts, alongside UN police officers; reviewing the role and needs of the security sector; building the capacity of State and Government institutions and strengthening capacity and mechanisms for monitoring, promoting and protecting human rights; and promoting justice and reconciliation.

**Strength:** 35 military observers, 1,517 police.

**UNAMID**

**African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur**

**Established:** July 2007.

**Mandate:** To contribute to the protection of civilians, contribute to security for humanitarian assistance, monitor and verify implementation of agreements, assist an inclusive political process, contribute to the promotion of human rights and the rule of law, and monitor and report on the situation along the borders with Chad and the Central African Republic.

**Strength:** 15,114 troops, 260 military observers, 4,575 police.

**MINURCAT**

**United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad**

**Established:** September 2007.

**Mandate:** To select, train, advise and facilitate support to elements of the Police tchadienne pour la protection humanitaire; contribute to the creation of a more secure environment; exchange information on threats to humanitarian activities in the region; contribute to the monitoring, promotion and protection of human rights; support the strengthening of the capacity of the Governments of Chad and the Central African Republic, and civil society, through training in international human rights standards and efforts to end the recruitment and use of children by armed groups; and assist Chad and the Central African Republic in promoting the rule of law. In 2009, its mandate was expanded to include protection of civilians, facilitation of delivery of humanitarian aid, protection of UN personnel and facilities and creation of conditions for the return of refugees.

**Strength:** 2,489 troops, 24 military observers, 264 police.

**Financial and administrative aspects of peacekeeping operations**

The General Assembly considered a number of issues related to financial and administrative aspects of UN peacekeeping operations, including the financial performance of UN peacekeeping operations, the support account for peacekeeping operations, funds for closed missions, financial reports and audited financial statements, apportionment of costs, reimbursements to Member States for contingent-owned equipment, management and financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, restructuring, UN police capacities, personnel matters, criminal accountability of UN staff and experts on mission, welfare and recreational needs of peacekeeping staff, death and disability, and training.

**Financing**

Expenditures for UN peacekeeping operations from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 \[A/64/5 (Vol. III)\] rose by 13.6 per cent, from $6,265.8 million in the previous fiscal year to $7,120.6 million. The increase, which was mainly due to the expansion of UNAMID, MINURCAT and MONUC and support for the American Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), was partially offset by the reduced expenditures for UNMIL, the closure of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) and the drawdown of UNMIK. Total assessments rose by 5.0 per cent, from $6,722.5 million to $7,060.5 million, while unpaid assessments pertaining to active peacekeeping missions decreased by 5.0 per cent, from $1,018.9 million to $967.5 million. Unpaid assessments for closed missions decreased marginally, from $557.6 million to $542.6 million. Therefore, the overall level of unpaid assessments decreased from $1,576.5 million to $1,510.1 million.
Available cash for active peacekeeping missions as at 30 June totalled $2,096.6 million, while liabilities reached $2,764.9 million. For closed missions, available cash totalled $440.2 million, while liabilities amounted to $395.2 million. Closed missions with cash surpluses remained the only available lending source for active missions. During the reporting period, the United Nations Peace Forces provided loans of $164.0 million, to UNFICYP ($3.0 million), MINURSO ($21.0 million), UNOMIG ($6.0 million), UNMIL ($10.0 million), UNOCI ($46.0 million), MINUSTAH ($38.0 million) and UNMIL ($8.0 million). Total loans outstanding amounted to $28.6 million.

**Notes of Secretary-General.** In January [A/C.5/63/21], the Secretary-General, further to the information provided in 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 86] on approved resources for peacekeeping operations for 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, including requirements for the United Nations Logistics Base (UNLB) at Brindisi and the support account for peacekeeping operations, provided information on further financing actions taken by the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-third session in respect of UNMEE and the support account for peacekeeping operations, for a total of $7,038,517,100.

In May [A/C.5/63/23], the Secretary-General provided information reflecting financing actions taken by the Assembly during the first part of its resumed sixty-third session in respect of MINURCAT, UNMIS and AMISOM, which brought the total to $7,310,003,400.

In May [A/C.5/63/24], in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/233 A [YUN 1994, p. 1338], the Secretary-General submitted to the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee information on the proposed budgetary requirements of each peacekeeping operation, including budget levels for UNLB and the support account for peacekeeping operations, for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, by category, with the aggregate total resource requirements amounting to $8,180,297,800.

In June [A/C.5/63/25], the Secretary-General submitted to the Fifth Committee a note reflecting the resources to be approved by the Assembly in respect of each peacekeeping mission, including the prorated shares of the support account for peacekeeping operations and UNLB.

In August [A/C.5/63/26], the Secretary-General submitted information on approved resources for peacekeeping operations for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, including requirements for UNLB and the support account for peacekeeping operations, amounting to $7,769,979,100.

**Financial performance**

In January [A/63/696], the Secretary-General submitted an overview report on the financing of UN peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 and the budget for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010. During the former period, total expenditure amounted to $6,276.6 million, against an approved budget of $6,770.7 million, exclusive of voluntary contributions in kind. The budget for peacekeeping operations for the latter period was estimated at $8,185.2 million. In March [A/63/784], the Secretary-General provided additional information in response to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report [A/63/5 (Vol. II)] on UN peacekeeping operations for the period ended 30 June 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 86].

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), reporting in April [A/63/746] on administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of peacekeeping operations, addressed matters arising from the reports of the Secretary-General on peacekeeping operations, including reference to recommendations or observations of the Board of Auditors. It commented on general issues arising from the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the UN peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2008. ACABQ also provided its observations and recommendations on reports addressing other peacekeeping matters.

On 30 June, the General Assembly deferred consideration of the Secretary-General’s report and the related ACABQ report until its sixty-fourth session (decision 63/550 C).

**Peacekeeping support account**

In February [A/63/698 & Add.1], the Secretary-General submitted the performance report on the budget of the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008. Expenditures for the period amounted to $222,450,800, against approved resources of $230,509,900, resulting in unutilized resources totalling $8,059,100. That unencumbered balance was attributable to underexpenditure in respect of post and non-post resources, in particular under facilities and infrastructure, offset by additional requirements under the other supplies, services and equipment class of expenditures.

The Secretary-General recommended that the General Assembly apply the unencumbered balance of $8,059,100 and the total amount of $6,997,200—comprising interest income ($3,248,500), other income ($245,900) and cancellation of prior-period...
obligations ($3,502,800)—to the support account requirements for the period from July 2009 through June 2010.

In March [A/63/767 & Corr.1], the Secretary-General submitted the budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, amounting to $324,447,100. It provided for 1,362 posts, comprising 1,180 continuing posts and 182 new posts.

The Independent Audit Advisory Committee in February [A/63/703] submitted its comments on the proposed oios budget under the support account for peacekeeping operations for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.

In May [A/63/841], ACABQ provided its observations and recommendations on the Secretary-General’s report on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations (see below), the performance report on the budget of the support account for peacekeeping operations for 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 (see above) and the proposed budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 (see above). It recommended approval of 106 of the 182 posts proposed by the Secretary-General in his March report. Its recommendations involved reductions totalling $19,817,800 gross ($17,913,100 net), as detailed in the report. Accordingly, it recommended that the Assembly approve staffing and non-staffing resources of $304,629,300 gross ($276,422,900 net) for the support account from July 2009 through June 2010.

With regard to a proposal in the Secretary-General’s February report on the performance report for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 (see above), the Advisory Committee recommended that the Assembly apply the total amount of $15,056,300, comprising the unencumbered balance of $8,059,100 in respect of the financial period from July 2007 through June 2008, and the total amount of $6,997,200, comprising interest income ($3,248,500), other income ($245,900) and cancellation of prior-period obligations ($3,502,800), to the support account requirements for the period from July 2009 to June 2010.

**General Assembly consideration.** On 30 June, the Assembly had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations [A/63/698 & Add.1 & A/63/767 & Corr.1] and on strengthening the UN capacity to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations [A/63/702 & Corr.1]; the reports of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on the proposed oios budget under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 [A/63/703] and on vacant posts in oios [A/63/737]; the oios report on the audit of the Secretariat’s structure for managing and sustaining peacekeeping operations [A/63/837]; and the related ACABQ report [A/63/841].

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 30 June [meeting 93], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee [A/63/894], adopted resolution 63/287 without vote [agenda item 132].

**Support account for peacekeeping operations**

*The General Assembly,*


Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations and on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations, the reports of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on the proposed budget for the Office of Internal Oversight Services under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 and on vacant posts in the Office, the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the Secretariat’s structure for managing and sustaining peacekeeping operations and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations being able to respond and deploy rapidly to a peacekeeping operation upon adoption of a relevant resolution of the Security Council, within thirty days for traditional peacekeeping operations and ninety days for complex peacekeeping operations,

Recognizing also the need for adequate support during all phases of peacekeeping operations, including the liquidation and termination phases,

Mindful that the level of the support account should broadly correspond to the mandate, number, size and complexity of peacekeeping missions,

**Support account for peacekeeping operations**

*The General Assembly,*


Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations and on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations, the reports of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on the proposed budget for the Office of Internal Oversight Services under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 and on vacant posts in the Office, the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the Secretariat’s structure for managing and sustaining peacekeeping operations and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations being able to respond and deploy rapidly to a peacekeeping operation upon adoption of a relevant resolution of the Security Council, within thirty days for traditional peacekeeping operations and ninety days for complex peacekeeping operations,

Recognizing also the need for adequate support during all phases of peacekeeping operations, including the liquidation and termination phases,

Mindful that the level of the support account should broadly correspond to the mandate, number, size and complexity of peacekeeping missions,

**Attaching great importance** to the provision of adequate resources for peacekeeping operations and their backstopping as well as for all priority activities of the Organization, in particular activities in the area of development, and underlining the need for genuine and meaningful partnership between the Security Council, the troop-contributing Governments and other Member States,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations and on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations,
the reports of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on the proposed budget for the Office of Internal Oversight Services under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 and on vacant posts in the Office and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the Secretariat’s structure for managing and sustaining peacekeeping operations;

2. Reaffirms its role in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of human and financial resources and policies with a view to ensuring the full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

3. Also reaffirms that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

4. Further reaffirms rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

5. Reaffirms that the support account funds shall be used for the sole purpose of financing human resources and non-human resource requirements for backstopping and supporting peacekeeping operations at Headquarters, and that any changes in this limitation require the prior approval of the General Assembly;

6. Also reaffirms the need for adequate funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, as well as the need for full justification for that funding in support account budget submissions;

7. Further reaffirms the need for effective and efficient administration and financial management of peacekeeping operations, and urges the Secretary-General to continue to identify measures to increase the productivity and efficiency of the support account;

8. Reiterates that the delegation of authority on the part of the Secretary-General should be in order to facilitate the better management of the Organization, but stresses that the overall responsibility for management of the Organization rests with the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer;

9. Affirms the need for the Secretary-General to ensure that the delegation of authority to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and field missions is in strict compliance with relevant resolutions and decisions, as well as relevant rules and procedures of the General Assembly on this matter;

10. Stresses that heads of departments report to and are accountable to the Secretary-General;

11. Requests the Secretary-General, when submitting his budget proposals, to include details of the full annual cost of posts for the subsequent budget;

12. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/276 of 29 June 2007 and other relevant resolutions;

13. Notes that the overall benefits of the restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, remain yet to be fully assessed, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to strengthen the capacity of the Organization to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations in the face of their surge in volume and complexity;

14. Reiterates that the Secretary-General should address systemic issues that hamper good management of the Organization, including by improving work processes and procedures, and, in that context, stresses that structural change is no substitute for managerial improvement;

15. Stresses the need for the Secretary-General to ensure a strategic and coherent vision when undertaking reform initiatives, and, in this context, emphasizes that any new proposal for reform should fully take into account ongoing and past management reforms;

16. Emphasizes the importance of preserving the unity of command in missions at all levels, as well as a coherence in policy and strategy and clear command structures in the field and up to and including Headquarters;

17. Also emphasizes the importance of interaction and coordination with troop-contributing countries;

18. Further emphasizes the need to ensure the safety and security of United Nations personnel;

19. Takes note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the recommendations therein;

20. Also takes note of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on vacant posts in the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and requests the Secretary-General to fill the vacancies in the Office, in accordance with the existing relevant provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations and the provisions of the present resolution;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to implement the recommendations of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee contained in paragraphs 22 to 29 and 33 to 35 of its report;

22. Stresses, in this regard, the importance for the Office of Internal Oversight Services, in its reports on investigations of fraud and corruption in the Organization, to define and make a clear differentiation between the actual value of financial loss to the Organization, if any, and other findings that may not have direct financial implication and the total number and value of contracts investigated, in order to convey an accurate perception of the value of financial loss;

23. Reiterates the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources;


25. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on
26. Notes the observation of the Board of Auditors that there is no defined formula to show the relationship between the level and complexity of peacekeeping operations and the level of the support account, and, in this regard, emphasizes the need to develop a sound approach for determining the proposed support account staffing requirements, so that Member States can make fully informed decisions on resources;

27. Requests the Secretary-General to review the level of the support account on a regular basis, taking into consideration the number, size and complexity of peacekeeping operations;

28. Takes note of paragraph 45 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the relevant legislative mandates, to include, in his rejustification of the totality of support account staffing requirements, inter alia, information on and an analysis of the following:

(a) The lead agency, entity, department and/or offices for major strands of activity and the scope of their respective responsibilities;

(b) Comprehensive assessment of the evolution of the support account;

(c) Related human resources funded from the regular budget and other sources of funding, including in other departments of the United Nations Secretariat, resources in field missions and, where relevant, the specialized agencies and funds and programmes;

(d) Impact of the requested resources on the improvement to the administrative and financial management of peacekeeping operations;

(e) All functions covered by the proposed resources other than that of backstopping peacekeeping operations;

(f) The impact of information and communications technology initiatives, including related business process improvements, on the enhancement of productivity and on the level of resources requested;

(g) The outcome of business process improvements;

(h) Lessons learned from recent experience of operating the support account, including on the conversion of general temporary assistance positions;

29. Recalls section I, paragraph 6, of resolution 55/238, paragraph 11 of resolution 56/241, paragraph 19 of resolution 61/279, and paragraph 22 of resolution 62/250, and requests the Secretary-General to make further concrete efforts to ensure proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, taking into account their contribution to United Nations peacekeeping;

30. Reiterates section III, paragraph 10, of resolution 63/250, and invites the Secretary-General, when appointing officials at the D-1 and D-2 levels in the Departments of the Secretariat that provide backstopping and/or policy guidance to field missions, to fully consider the relevant field experience of the candidates, as one of the highly desirable appointment criteria;

31. Recalls its resolution 63/280 of 8 May 2009 and decides to establish the Security Sector Reform Unit in the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions;

32. Also recalls paragraph 17 of resolution 60/268, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to entrust to the Office of Internal Oversight Services the task of refining the methodology for allocating resident auditors, taking also into account the risks and complexity of the operation of individual peacekeeping operations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

33. Stresses that the due process rights afforded to staff under investigation have to withstand review by the system of the administration of justice, including in the context of the establishment of the new system;

34. Notes with serious concern the decision to advertise vacancies for positions not approved by the General Assembly, and stresses the need for vacancy announcements to be made in accordance with existing relevant provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations and that any changes involving administrative and financial implications shall be subject to the review and approval of the Assembly in accordance with established procedures;

35. Decides to maintain, for the financial period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, the funding mechanism for the support account used in the current period, from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, as approved in paragraph 3 of its resolution 50/221 B of 7 June 1996;

36. Takes note of paragraph 175 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

37. Decides not to introduce the proposed structure based on the hub approach at this stage, and decides to designate, as a pilot project, centres of investigation in Nairobi, Vienna and New York from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2012;

38. Recognizes the value of resident investigators, and decides to maintain resident investigations staff presence in some peacekeeping operations, pending its consideration of the comprehensive report referred to in paragraph 40 below;

39. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a preliminary report on the status of implementation of the pilot project at the second part of its resumed sixty-fifth session;

40. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for consideration, in the context of the 2012/13 support account budget, after full consultations with all relevant stakeholders, integrating in particular the comments and observations of field missions, a comprehensive report on the pilot project, with a view to deciding on a restructuring of the Investigations Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, including:

(a) A complete qualitative analysis of the implementation of the three-year pilot project, including the lessons learned;

(b) A clear and transparent presentation of the existing structure and the pilot project structure and their respective coverage of field missions;

(c) A comprehensive cost-benefit analysis, including of the effectiveness and efficiency of the structure of the pilot project based on accurate assumptions, including an analysis of the long-term trend of investigations in field missions;
(d) Fully justified rationale for all deployments of investigations staff and resources and the ability of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to respond to changing caseload requirements;

(e) Complete and updated information on the current staffing, vacancy rate and caseload;

41. Requests the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to request the Board of Auditors to conduct an audit of the implementation of the pilot project for the period of 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2012, without prejudice to the role of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, and to report thereon separately to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-sixth session;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

42. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008;

Budget estimates for the financial period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

43. Approves the support account requirements in the amount of 294,030,900 United States dollars for the financial period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, including 1,182 continuing posts, and 63 new temporary posts contained in annex I to the present resolution, and 83 continuing and 60 new general temporary assistance positions contained in annex II, as well as their related post and non-post requirements;

Financing of the budget estimates

44. Decides that the requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the financial period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 shall be financed as follows:

(a) The unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 15,056,300 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2008, to be applied to the resources required for the financial period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

(b) The amount of 7,322,600 dollars representing the excess of the authorized level of the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2008, to be applied to the resources required for the financial period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

(c) The amount of 62,800 dollars representing the excess of the appropriation for the support account requirements in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2007, to be applied to the resources required for the financial period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

(d) The balance of 271,589,200 dollars to be prorated among the budgets of the individual active peacekeeping operations.

ANNEX I

Support account posts to be established for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational unit</th>
<th>Number of posts</th>
<th>Post level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Peacekeeping Operations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Operations</td>
<td>GTA conversion</td>
<td>1 P-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>20 1 D-1, 1 P-5, 10 P-4, 6 P-3, 2 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GTA conversion</td>
<td>1 P-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Field Support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Under-Secretary-General Field Budget and Finance Division</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>2 2 P-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Personnel Division</td>
<td>GTA conversion</td>
<td>2 P-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistics Support Division</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>7 3 P-4, 3 P-3, 1 GS (PL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reclassification</td>
<td>1 P-3 to P-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GTA conversion</td>
<td>1 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>2 1 P-4, 1 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GTA conversion</td>
<td>4 1 P-4, 3 P-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reclassification</td>
<td>1 P-3 to P-4, 1 P-4 to P-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Human Resources Management</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>11 1 P-4, 5 P-3, 1 P-2, 1 GS (PL), 3 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GTA conversion</td>
<td>3 2 P-4, 1 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Office of Internal Oversight Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspection and Evaluation Division</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>1 1 P-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Audit Division</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>1 1 P-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Office of Legal Affairs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New</td>
<td>2 1 P-5, 1 P-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Office of the United Nations Ombudsman</strong></td>
<td>New</td>
<td>1 1 P-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>63 1D-1, 5 P-5, 23 P-4, 22 P-3, 1 P-2, 3 GS (PL), 8 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other Level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal Level); GTA (General Temporary Assistance).
### ANNEX II

**Support account general temporary assistance positions to be established for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational unit</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
<th>Position level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Peacekeeping Operations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Operations</td>
<td>Continuation 2</td>
<td>P-4, 1 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>P-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy, Evaluation and Training Division</td>
<td>Continuation 8</td>
<td>P-5, 3 P-4, 3 P-3, 1 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Field Support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Personnel Division</td>
<td>Continuation 6</td>
<td>P-3, 2 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Budget and Finance Division</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>P-3, 2 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistics Support Division</td>
<td>Continuation 2</td>
<td>P-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Under-Secretary-General Planning, Budget and Accounts</td>
<td>Continuation 14</td>
<td>P-4, 4 P-3, 1 P-2, 4 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Human Resources Management</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>P-3, 2 P-2, 12 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Central Support Services</td>
<td>Continuation 3</td>
<td>GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Office of Internal Oversight Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigations Division</td>
<td>Continuation 2</td>
<td>P-3, 1 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New</td>
<td>P-3, 2 GS (OL)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Legal Affairs</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>P-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics Office</td>
<td>Continuation 2</td>
<td>P-3, 1 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Information and Communications Technology</td>
<td>Continuation 7</td>
<td>P-3, 2 GS (OL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Continuation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: 11

Subtotal: 23

Subtotal: 11

Subtotal: 2

Subtotal: 45

Subtotal: 51

Subtotal: 10

Subtotal: 143

*Note: General temporary assistance positions equivalent to 2,018,900 dollars (before the application of the approved vacancy rates).

Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other Level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal Level); NGS (National General Service).

### Funds for closed missions

A Secretary-General’s report [A/63/581] updated the information on the financial position of 21 closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2008. The net cash surplus in the accounts of 16 closed missions available for credit to Member States as at that date amounted to $186,297,000. That amount did not include loans totalling $37,816,000 owed by two closed missions—the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti/United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti ($7,366,000) and the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic ($3,450,000)—and by two active peacekeeping missions—MINUSO ($14,000,000) and UNMIK ($13,000,000)—which remained unpaid. Five of the 21 closed missions reflected cash deficits totalling $86,712,000, owing to outstanding payments of assessed contributions. The Secretary-General recommended that the General Assembly approve retention of the cash balance of $186,297,000 available in 16 closed peacekeeping missions, in the light of the experience with respect to cash requirements of the Organization during the 2007/08 and 2008/09 financial periods.

In May [A/63/856], Acaa provided its comments on the Secretary-General’s report. With respect to the disposition of the $186,297,000, it cited regulation 5.3 of the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules, which provided that appropriations should remain available for 12 months following the end of the financial period to which they related, to the extent that they were required to discharge obligations in respect of goods supplied and services rendered in the financial period, and to liquidate any other outstanding legal obligation of the financial period. The regulation also stated that the balance of the appropriations should be surrendered. The Advisory Committee reiterated its view that it was for the General Assembly to decide on the disposition of such balances.

On 30 June, the General Assembly deferred consideration of the Secretary-General’s and Acaa reports until its sixty-fourth session ([decision 63/550C](#)).

Also on 30 June, by [decision 63/557](#), the Assembly decided to return two thirds of the credits available in the account of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission to the Government of Kuwait in the amount of $996,800. It also decided to continue to consider the updated financial position of closed peacekeeping missions during its sixty-fourth (2009) session.

### Accounts and auditing

At its resumed sixty-third (2009) session, the General Assembly considered the financial report and audited financial statements for UN peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 30 June [meeting 93], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee [A/63/637/Add.1] adopted resolution 63/246 B without vote [agenda item 116].

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/223 B of 20 June 2008 and 63/246 A of 24 December 2008,,

Having considered the financial report and audited financial statements for the twelve-month period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations peacekeeping operations, the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2008 and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2008,

1. Accepts the audited financial statements of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008;

2. Takes note of the observations and endorses the recommendations contained in the report of the Board of Auditors;

3. Reiterates that the issue of outstanding assessed contributions is a policy matter of the General Assembly, and urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions in full and on time;

4. Takes note of the observations and endorses the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

5. Commends the Board of Auditors for the quality of its report and the streamlined format thereof;

6. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2008;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, including those relating to expendable and non-expendable property, and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee in a prompt and timely manner, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to indicate an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the priorities for their implementation, including the office holders to be held accountable and measures taken in that regard;

9. Further requests the Secretary-General to provide, in the next report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning the United Nations peacekeeping operations, a full explanation for the delays in the implementation of all outstanding recommendations of the Board, the root causes of the recurring issues and the measures to be taken.

Apportionment of costs

Report of Secretary-General. The Secretary-General reported in September [A/64/220] on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of UN peacekeeping operations. He recalled that in its resolution 55/235 [YUN 2000, p. 102], the General Assembly had adopted a new system of adjustments of the scale of assessments for the regular budget to be used in fixing rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations. That system was based on assigning each Member State to one of 10 levels, using its average per capita gross national product during the period 1993–1998 and other criteria.

Also in resolution 55/235, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to update the composition of the levels on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the reviews of the scale of assessments for the regular budget, and to report thereon to the Assembly. By the same resolution, the Assembly decided that the structure of contribution levels to be implemented from 1 July 2001 would be reviewed after nine years. By its resolution 61/243 [YUN 2006, p. 1629], the Assembly decided to carry out the review at its sixty-fourth session and requested the Secretary-General to report on the updating of the composition of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations for the period from 2010 to 2012. The report responded to that request and provided information on updating the composition of those levels. It provided information on changes in the peacekeeping levels of Member States based on average per capita gross national income during the period 2002–2007. Those were based on the data used by the Committee on Contributions in reviewing the scale of assessments for the 2010–2012 period, which would be considered by the Assembly during its sixty-fourth session.

Until the General Assembly adopted a new scale, it would not be possible to determine the corresponding rates of assessment for peacekeeping. Further, any adjustments to the structure of contribution levels for peacekeeping operations, as might be decided by the Assembly, would also need to be taken into account in determining the rates of assessment for peacekeeping. For illustrative purposes, however, on the basis of the current structure of contributions levels, an annex showed the peacekeeping rates of assessment corresponding to the scale of assessments for the 2010–2012 period included in the report of the Committee on Contributions [A/64/11].
GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 24 December [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee [A/64/595], adopted resolution 64/249 without vote [agenda item 145].

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000, 58/256 of 23 December 2003 and 61/243 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also its request to the Secretary-General, in paragraph 15 of resolution 55/235, to update the composition of the levels of contribution of Member States for peacekeeping operations described in the resolution on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established in the resolution, and to report thereon to the General Assembly,

Recalling further its decision, in paragraph 16 of resolution 55/235, to review the structure of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations after nine years,

Reaffirming the principles set out in its resolutions 1874(S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101(XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 55/235 and 55/236,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and of the updated composition of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations for the period 2010 to 2012 contained therein;

2. Reaffirms the following general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations:

(a) The financing of such operations is the collective responsibility of all States Members of the United Nations and, accordingly, the costs of peacekeeping operations are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) In order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures under the regular budget of the United Nations;

(c) Whereas the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions to peacekeeping operations, the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures;

(d) The special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security should be borne in mind in connection with their contributions to the financing of peace and security operations;

(e) Where circumstances warrant, the General Assembly should give special consideration to the situation of any Member States which are victims of, and those which are otherwise involved in, the events or actions leading to a peacekeeping operation;

3. Also reaffirms that assessment rates for the financing of peacekeeping operations should be based on the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations, with an appropriate and transparent system of adjustments based on the levels of Member States, consistent with the principles outlined above;

4. Further reaffirms that the permanent members of the Security Council should form a separate level and that, consistent with their special responsibilities for the maintenance of peace and security, they should be assessed at a higher rate than for the regular budget;

5. Affirms that all discounts resulting from adjustments to the regular budget assessment rates of Member States in levels C through J shall be borne on a pro rata basis by the permanent members of the Security Council;

6. Reaffirms that the least developed countries should be placed in a separate level and receive the highest rate of discount available under the scale;

7. Also reaffirms that the statistical data used for setting the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be the same as the data used in preparing the regular budget scale of assessments, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. Further reaffirms the decision to create levels of discount to facilitate automatic, predictable movement between categories on the basis of the per capita gross national income of Member States;

9. Decides that, as from 1 January 2010, the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be based on the ten levels of contribution and parameters set forth in the table below, subject to the provisions of the present resolution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Permanent members of the Security Council</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>Premium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>All Member States, except those listed below and level A</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>As listed in the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/235</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Member States with per capita gross national income less than 2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)</td>
<td>Under 13,416</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.8 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)</td>
<td>Under 12,074</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.6 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)</td>
<td>Under 10,733</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.4 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)</td>
<td>Under 9,391</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)</td>
<td>Under 8,050</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Member States with per capita gross national income less than the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)</td>
<td>Under 6,708</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Least developed countries (except level A and C contributors)</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a Member States in level H have a discount of 70 per cent.*
10. Reaffirms that Member States will be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they are eligible, unless they indicate a decision to move to a higher level;

11. Also reaffirms that for purposes of determining the eligibility of Member States for contribution in particular levels during the 2010–2012 scale period, the average per capita gross national income of all Member States will be 6,708 United States dollars and the per capita gross national income of Member States will be the average of 2002 to 2007 figures;

12. Further reaffirms that transition periods of two years will apply to countries moving up by two levels, and that transition periods of three years will apply to countries moving up by three or more levels without prejudice to paragraph 10 above;

13. Reaffirms that transitions as specified above will occur in equal increments over the transition period as designated above;

14. Endorses the updated composition of levels to be applied in adjusting regular budget scale rates to establish Member States’ rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations for the period from 2010 to 2012, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to continue updating the composition of the levels described above on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established above, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

16. Recognizes the concerns raised by Member States, including Bahrain and the Bahamas, regarding the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

17. Also recognizes the need to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

18. Desires to address the issues referred to above in an effective and expeditious manner;

19. Decides to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations with a view to a decision, if agreed, no later than at its sixty-seventh session.

Also on 24 December, the General Assembly decided that the agenda item on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of UN peacekeeping operations would remain for consideration during its resumed sixty-fourth (2010) session (decision 64/549).

New rates of assessment. On 31 December [A/64/220/Add.1], following the adoption, by resolution 64/248 (see p. 1412), of a new scale of assessments for the regular budget for the period 2010–2012 and the endorsement, by resolution 64/249 (see above), of the updated composition of levels for the period 2010–2012, the Secretary-General set out effective rates of assessment for peacekeeping for 2010–2012.

Reimbursement issues

Reimbursement for contingent-owned equipment

During its 2009 substantive session [A/63/19], the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations emphasized the importance of effective and transparent inspections of contingent-owned equipment. It acknowledged that troop costs had not been reviewed since 2002 and looked forward to the recommendations the Fifth Committee would make on that matter.

Report of Secretary-General. In January, the Secretary-General submitted a report [A/63/697] on the review of the methodology for rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/252 [YUN 2008, p. 93]. The rate of reimbursement for troop costs, unchanged since 1 January 2002, included $1,028 for basic pay and allowance, a $303 specialists’ allowance (payable for 10 per cent of infantry contingents and formed police units and for 25 per cent of support contingents), and a $73 allowance for personal clothing, gear, equipment and personal weapons and ammunition. The proposed methodology for rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries, described in a 2006 report [YUN 2006, p. 101], was resubmitted for consideration and approval by the Assembly.

The Secretary-General suggested that data and views on the daily allowance be collected through questionnaires to force commanders and to randomly selected peacekeepers. As for recreational leave allowance, contingent personnel could earn leave at 2.5 days per month, for a total of 15 days during a six-month assignment, but were entitled only to a recreational leave allowance of $10.50 per day for a maximum of seven days. The 2008 Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment had recommended [YUN 2008, p. 93] an increase in recreational leave allowance from 7 to 15 days for each six-month tour of duty for members of military contingents/formed police units.

The Secretary-General recommended that the Assembly approve the proposed methodology for the rates of reimbursement; the proposed rate of exchange reference date for the conversion of collected cost data from national currencies to United States dollars; the conduct of the first survey in 2009 and proposed periodicity thereafter; the proposed field questionnaires to collect data on the daily allowance for troops; and the increase in the number of days of recreational leave allowance for members of the military contingents and formed police units from 7 to 15.

ACABQ report. In April [A/63/746], ACABQ noted the Secretary-General’s intention to provide valid, reliable and comprehensive data, which would constitute an improved basis for informed decision-making by the General Assembly and would be more trans-
parent. The Committee further noted that the application of the methodology could lead to a change in the current applicable rates of reimbursement. It did not object to the Secretary-General’s proposals.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 30 June [meeting 93], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee [A/63/894], adopted resolution 63/285 without vote [agenda item 132].

**Rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries**

*The General Assembly, Recalling its resolution 62/252 of 20 June 2008, Recalling also its resolutions 55/274 of 14 June 2001 and 59/298 of 22 June 2005, Having considered the updated report of the Secretary-General on the review of the methodology for rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,*

1. *Takes note of the updated report of the Secretary-General on the review of the methodology for rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries;*

2. *Endorses the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;*

3. *Decides that the cost of any equipment purchased in a foreign currency by a troop-contributing country as well as the salary of any troop paid in a foreign currency may be reported in that currency;*

4. *Also decides to approve the increase in the number of days of recreational leave allowance paid to members of the military contingents and formed police units from seven to fifteen.*

**Management of peacekeeping assets**

*United Nations Logistics Base*

The General Assembly, at its resumed sixty-third (2009) session, considered the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Logistics Base (unlb) at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 [A/63/626]. Expenditure totalled $40,201,500 gross ($37,198,600 net) against an appropriation of $40,329,700 gross ($37,687,200 net), resulting in an unencumbered balance of $178,100.

The amount of $301.7 million was rolled over into the 2008/09 fund balance. The Secretary-General requested that the Assembly decide on the treatment of the unencumbered balance, as well as of other income for the period amounting to $3,031,700 from interest income ($2,571,000), other/miscellaneous income ($277,300) and cancellation of prior-period obligations ($433,400).

The Assembly also considered the proposed unlb budget for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 [A/63/824 & Corr.1], amounting to $68,240,300 and providing for 151 international staff and 268 national staff.

In June [A/63/746/Add.17], ACABQ evaluated the Secretary-General’s proposed budget. Addressing the Fifth Committee on 4 June [A/C.5/63/SR.52], ACABQ Chair Susan McLurg recommended against approval of a number of the proposed staffing changes; the related reduction would amount to $9,888,100.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 30 June [meeting 93], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee [A/63/894], adopted resolution 63/286 without vote [agenda item 132].

**Financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy**

*The General Assembly, Recalling section XIV of its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994 and its resolution 62/231 of 22 December 2007, Recalling also its decision 50/500 of 17 September 1996 on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 62/251 of 20 June 2008, Recalling further its resolution 56/292 of 27 June 2002 concerning the establishment of the strategic deployment stocks and its subsequent resolutions on the status of the implementation of the strategic deployment stocks, the latest of which was resolution 62/251,*

*Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base, the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and the oral statement of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee,*

*Reiterating the importance of establishing an accurate inventory of assets,*

1. *Notes with appreciation the facilities provided by the Government of Italy to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;*

2. *Endorses the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the oral statement of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;*
3. Recalls paragraphs 9 and 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that indicators of achievement reflect more fully the scope of functions and services provided by the United Nations Logistics Base to peacekeeping operations and other field missions;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take measures to expedite receipt and inspection procedures on strategic deployment stocks shipped from the United Nations Logistics Base and to report thereon in the context of the next budget submission;

5. Welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly on a global support strategy for United Nations peacekeeping operations as referred to in paragraph 24 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that his proposals include a thorough cost-benefit analysis;

6. Recalls paragraph 51 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to relocate the Standing Police Capacity to the United Nations Logistics Base;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/276 of 29 June 2007, as well as other relevant resolutions;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

8. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

9. Approves the cost estimates for the United Nations Logistics Base amounting to 57,954,100 United States dollars for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

Financing of the budget estimates

10. Decides that the requirements for the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 shall be financed as follows:

(a) The unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 3,209,800 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2008 to be applied against the resources required for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

(b) The balance of 54,744,300 dollars to be prorated among the budgets of the active peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

(c) The estimated staff assessment income of 5,404,400 dollars, comprising the amount of 5,093,900 dollars for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 and the increase of 310,500 dollars in respect of the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, to be offset against the balance referred to in subparagraph (b) above, to be prorated among the budgets of the individual active peacekeeping operations;

11. Also decides to consider at its sixty-fourth session the question of the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy.

Restructuring issues

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. The Special Committee [A/63/19] noted the increase in complex peacekeeping operations, and that the Security Council had mandated peacekeeping operations that included activities beyond the traditional tasks of monitoring and reporting. It therefore stressed the need for DPKO and DFS to be efficiently structured and adequately staffed. Noting that a number of senior posts within DFS were unfilled, it recommended action to fill all vacancies in both Departments.

The Special Committee reiterated 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 at Headquarters. It requested that the Secretary-General ensure a clear chain of command, accountability, coordination and maintenance of adequate checks and balances. It stressed that the success of the restructuring hinged upon the principles of unity of command and integration of efforts at all levels, in the field and at Headquarters. Noting that the integrated operational teams had yet to function effectively and efficiently, it requested that attention be given to improving communication with Member States.

Report of Secretary-General. In accordance with paragraph 67 of General Assembly resolution 61/279 [YUN 2007, p. 97], which called for a comprehensive review of the impact of the new structure of DPKO and DFS in the implementation of mission mandates and on the efficiency and effectiveness of programme delivery, the Secretary-General, in February, submitted a report [A/63/702 & Corr.1] on strengthening the UN capacity to manage peacekeeping operations, which set the context of restructuring, outlined the progress and initial impact of the restructuring effort and described ongoing challenges for UN peacekeeping.

The report stated that in the 18 months following the adoption of resolution 61/279 concerning the restructuring, significant strategic and operational benefits had been realized. The most noticeable impact of the restructuring had been the creation of consolidated, dedicated areas of expertise in the areas of rule of law and field support. The establishment of the DPKO Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions had allowed a more balanced, comprehensive support to the related elements within the 18 peacekeeping operations and special political missions under the responsibility of DPKO. In forming DFS, the role of mission support had been elevated and was now rightly positioned as a “strategic enabler” in the delivery of peacekeeping and political mandates to those operations, including 16 missions for which the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) had lead responsibility. Overall, unity of command had been preserved,
greater integration of effort achieved, guidance to the field enhanced, and improvements to administrative and management processes realized.

New, more complex and urgent mandates continued to strain the Organization, the report stated. With the growth in the authorized strength of peacekeeping personnel by over 30 per cent and the establishment of two highly complex operations in Chad and the Central African Republic, as well as in Darfur, the operational demands on the two Departments had continued to grow. As a result, the effort to deliver new, larger and more diverse field operations had often conflicted with the capability of the Departments to engage in strategic planning and to organize in a more effective and efficient manner. A similar situation had occurred in respect of the establishment of the integrated operational teams, which had achieved varying measures of success.

DFs was developing a comprehensive support strategy to pursue innovative ways of working while increasing accountability. Refinements were also being made to the integrated operational team concept. Other areas identified for further reform included an improved division of labour within DPA and strengthened rule of law capacities. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/250 [YUN 2008, p. 1616] on human resources management would strengthen the Organization’s capability to attract and retain highly qualified staff for UN field operations.

The reform agenda set by Member States to strengthen DPA and DFS was achieving clear benefits. The Departments would conduct a comprehensive analysis of the challenges and opportunities for peacekeeping, with a view to identifying approaches and to articulating strategic and policy goals to minimize risk, optimize partnerships and maximize effectiveness in mounting and sustaining UN operations.

In May [A/63/841], ACABQ submitted its comments on the Secretary-General’s report.

OIOS report. Pursuant to Assembly resolution 61/279, OIOS conducted an audit of the Secretariat’s structure for managing and sustaining peacekeeping operations. Reporting to the Assembly in April [A/63/837], OIOS stated that the main objective of the audit was to assess whether the organizational roles, responsibilities, reporting lines and other governance and accountability mechanisms in the Secretariat’s new structure for peacekeeping were adequately defined. To that end, it reviewed roles of the heads of missions, DPKO, DFS, DPA, the Department of Management and other entities involved in peacekeeping.

Among its main findings, OIOS held that the new structure would allow DPKO to focus on substantive peacekeeping issues, but it was too early to determine whether the new structure was operating effectively and efficiently. Similarly, the roles and accountabilities of DFS and each mission’s support component in providing support to missions were yet to be clearly defined. OIOS had made recommendations to address those issues, and the concerned departments had accepted them.

UN police capacities

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. The Special Committee [A/63/19] noted the sustained increase of the police dimension in a number of missions and stressed the importance of maintaining an appropriate support capacity at Headquarters to ensure an adequate level of oversight and guidance to the field. Noting the review of the DPKO Police Division carried out since its previous report, the Committee acknowledged the gaps in the capacities of the Division and stressed the importance of addressing them in a timely manner. The Special Committee called upon the Secretariat to continue developing standard operating guidelines and procedures for UN policing, including for formed police units, in consultation with Member States. It recognized the need to recruit qualified personnel for police components of UN peacekeeping operations, and encouraged the Secretariat to improve procedures and guidance, in cooperation with contributing countries, for timely, effective and transparent evaluation and recruitment of candidates.

Personnel matters

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations [A/63/19] recognized the efforts made by DPKO and DFS with regard to balanced recruiting of staff. It urged the Secretary-General to ensure a fair representation of troop-contributing countries when selecting personnel for such staff positions, and acknowledged the progress made by the Secretariat in ensuring a better representation of troop-contributing countries, in particular developing countries, in regard to senior mission leadership appointments. The Special Committee expressed concern over the continuing low proportion of women in the Secretariat, in particular women from developing countries, especially at the senior levels. It stressed that, in the recruitment process, women from certain countries, in particular developing countries, should be accorded equal opportunities, in conformity with relevant resolutions. The Special Committee requested that the Secretary-General ensure equitable representation of Member States at the senior and policymaking levels of the Secretariat, especially those with inadequate representation at those levels.

Concerned about the high number of vacancies in peacekeeping missions, the Special Committee requested that the Secretariat accelerate the recruitment
of personnel, including senior mission leadership. It requested that the Secretary-General swiftly implement the decisions on contractual arrangements and harmonization of conditions of service as a means of dealing with the high vacancy issue. It also requested that he continue to ensure greater use of national staff in peacekeeping operations.

The Special Committee acknowledged that the interaction of UN military, police and civilian personnel with the local population was necessary for the efficiency and success of peacekeeping operations, and that language skills should constitute an important element of selection and training. It therefore urged DPKO and DFS to recruit staff and experts on mission with language skills that were relevant to the mission area where they were to be deployed. Good command of the official language in the country should also be taken into account.

**Criminal accountability of UN staff and experts on mission**

**Report of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/119 [YUN 2008, p. 98], the Secretary-General, in July, submitted a report [A/64/183 & Add.1] on the criminal accountability of UN officials and experts on mission that provided information from Governments on the extent to which their laws established jurisdiction over serious crimes committed by their nationals while serving as UN officials or experts on mission, as well as information on cooperation among States and with the United Nations in the exchange of information and the facilitation of investigations and prosecution. The report also detailed recent Secretariat activities, including bringing credible allegations to the attention of the concerned State and providing training on UN standards of conduct before deployment and during a mission.

**Working Group consideration.** On 23 October [A/C.6/64/SR.14], Maria Telalian (Greece), Chairperson of the Working Group on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission [YUN 2008, p. 98], briefed the General Assembly Sixth Committee on the activities of the Working Group, which met on 13 and 15 October. Participants had exchanged views mainly on the question of whether it was timely and appropriate to start negotiations on a draft international convention on criminal accountability, as proposed by the Group of Legal Experts [YUN 2006, p. 109].

Some delegations held that a binding legal instrument would constitute a solid legal basis for establishing criminal jurisdiction by the State of nationality of the alleged offender, so as to eliminate potential jurisdictional gaps, and for enhancing cooperation among States and between States and the United Nations. Adoption of a convention would give a strong political signal that criminal conduct by UN officials or experts on mission would not be tolerated. Other delegations considered it premature to discuss a draft convention, as further information and study were needed to understand the nature and extent of the problem—including potential jurisdictional gaps or obstacles to cooperation—and to assess whether a convention would be an appropriate response. Some felt that efforts should focus on implementing the measures adopted in Assembly resolutions 62/63 [YUN 2007, p. 102] and 63/119, in particular the improvement by individual States of their own legislation, as well as enhanced cooperation among States. Others suggested adapting the model status-of-forces agreements and status-of-mission agreements to specific situations, by focusing on the elaboration of jurisdictional clauses and provisions aimed at strengthening cooperation in the prosecution of serious crimes committed by UN officials and experts on mission. Informal consultations had also begun on the elaboration of a draft resolution that would reaffirm the need to implement the short-term measures envisaged in those resolutions.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 16 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Sixth Committee [A/64/446], adopted resolution 64/110 without vote [agenda item 78].

**Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission**

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 59/281 of 29 March 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that the Secretary-General make available to the United Nations membership a comprehensive report on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations,

Recalling also that the Secretary-General, on 24 March 2005, transmitted to the President of the General Assembly a report of his Adviser concerning sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel,

Recalling further its resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that a group of legal experts be established to provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely that United Nations staff and experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized without due process,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of United Nations officials and experts on mission towards the fulfilment of the principles and purposes of the Charter,
Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law,

Reaffirming also that the present resolution is without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the United Nations under international law,

Reaffirming further the obligation of United Nations officials and experts on mission to respect the national laws of the host State, as well as the right of the host State to exercise, where applicable, its criminal jurisdiction, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing operations of United Nations missions,

Deeply concerned by reports of criminal conduct, and conscious that such conduct, if not investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted, would create the negative impression that United Nations officials and experts on mission operate with impunity,

Reaffirming the need to ensure that all United Nations officials and experts on mission function in a manner that preserves the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations,

Emphasizing that crimes committed by such persons are unacceptable and have a detrimental effect on the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations, in particular with respect to the relations between the United Nations and the local population in the host country,

Conscious of the importance of protecting the rights of victims of criminal conduct, as well as of ensuring adequate protection for witnesses, and recalling the adoption of its resolution 62/214 of 21 December 2007 on the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel,

Emphasizing the need to enhance international cooperation to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recalling its resolution 61/29 of 4 December 2006, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Having considered the report of the Group of Legal Experts established by the Secretary-General pursuant to its resolution 59/3006 and the report of the Ad Hoc Committee, as well as the note by the Secretariat and the reports of the Secretary-General on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recalling its resolutions 62/63 of 6 December 2007 and 63/119 of 11 December 2008,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations and its Member States to urgently take strong and effective steps to ensure criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission in the interest of justice,

1. Expresses its appreciation for the work done by the Working Group of the Sixth Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission;

2. Strongly urges States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished and that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of such persons and the United Nations under international law, and in accordance with international human rights standards, including due process;

3. Strongly urges all States to consider establishing to the extent that they have not yet done so jurisdiction, particularly over crimes of a serious nature, as known in their existing domestic criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, at least where the conduct as defined in the law of the State establishing jurisdiction also constitutes a crime under the laws of the host State;

4. Encourages all States to cooperate with each other and with the United Nations in the exchange of information and in facilitating the conduct of investigations and, as appropriate, prosecution of United Nations officials and experts on mission who are alleged to have committed crimes of a serious nature, in accordance with their domestic laws and applicable United Nations rules and regulations, fully respecting due process rights, as well as to consider strengthening the capacities of their national authorities to investigate and prosecute such crimes;

5. Also encourages all States:

   (a) To afford to each other assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings in respect of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, including assistance in obtaining evidence at their disposal, in accordance with their domestic law or any treaties or other arrangements on extradition and mutual legal assistance that may exist between them;

   (b) In accordance with their domestic law, to explore ways and means of facilitating the possible use of information and material obtained from the United Nations for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated in their territory for the prosecution of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, bearing in mind due process considerations;

   (c) In accordance with their domestic law, to provide effective protection for victims of, witnesses to, and others who provide information in relation to, crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission and to facilitate access by victims to victim assistance programmes, without prejudice to the rights of the alleged offender, including those relating to due process;

   (d) In accordance with their domestic law, to explore ways and means of responding adequately to requests by host States for support and assistance in order to enhance their capacity to conduct effective investigations in respect of crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

6. Requests the Secretariat to continue to ensure that requests to Member States seeking personnel to serve as experts on mission make States aware of the expectation that persons who serve in that capacity should meet high standards in their conduct and behaviour and be aware that certain conduct may amount to a crime for which they may be held accountable;

7. Urges the Secretary-General to continue to take such other practical measures as are within his authority to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through predeployment and
in-mission induction training for United Nations officials and experts on mission;

8. **Decides**, bearing in mind its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, that the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects, taking into account the views of Member States and the information contained in the note by the Secretariat, shall be continued during its sixty-seventh session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to bring credible allegations that reveal that a crime may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission to the attention of the States against whose nationals such allegations are made and to request from those States an indication of the status of their efforts to investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute crimes of a serious nature, as well as the types of appropriate assistance that States may wish to receive from the Secretariat for the purposes of such investigations and prosecutions;

10. **Requests** the United Nations, when its investigations into allegations suggest that crimes of a serious nature may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, to consider any appropriate measures that may facilitate the possible use of information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States, bearing in mind due process considerations;

11. **Encourages** the United Nations, when allegations against United Nations officials or experts on mission are determined by a United Nations administrative investigation to be unfounded, to take appropriate measures, in the interests of the Organization, to restore the credibility and reputation of such officials and experts on mission;

12. **Urge** the United Nations to continue cooperating with States exercising jurisdiction in order to provide them, within the framework of the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing activities of the United Nations, with information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States;

13. **Emphasizes** that the United Nations, in accordance with the applicable rules of the Organization, should take no action that would retaliate against or intimidate United Nations officials and experts on mission who report allegations concerning crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

14. **Takes note with appreciation** of the information provided by Governments in response to its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, and urges Governments to continue taking the measures necessary for the implementation of those resolutions, including their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction, particularly over crimes of a serious nature, as known in their existing domestic criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, as well as cooperation among States;

15. **Reiterates its request** to the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular with respect to paragraphs 3, 5 and 9 above, as well as any practical problems in its implementation, on the basis of information received from Governments and the Secretariat;

16. **Requests** the Secretary-General to include in his report information on the number and types of credible allegations and any actions taken by the United Nations and its Member States regarding crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

17. **Also requests** the Secretary-General to include in his report information on how the United Nations might support Member States, at their request, in the development of domestic criminal law relevant to crimes of a serious nature committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission;

18. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission”.

### Welfare and recreational needs

The Special Committee [A/63/19] reaffirmed the importance of welfare and recreation for peacekeeping personnel, including non-contingent personnel, bearing in mind that it contributed to strengthening morale and discipline. It believed that the provision of facilities related to welfare and recreation should be prioritized during the establishment of peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee reaffirmed the important role of troop- and police-contributing countries in the welfare and recreation of contingent personnel.

Pursuant to the request of the Special Committee at its 2008 session, which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/273 [YUN 2008, p. 82], the Secretary-General, in January, submitted a report on the welfare and recreation needs of all categories of personnel and detailed implications [A/63/675 & Corr.1]. The report reviewed the practices of mission welfare and recreation programmes, and described the status of the measures that were under consideration or under way. Drs had conducted two surveys to assess the state of welfare and recreation in the field, which identified a variety of issues on the need to improve the quality of the environment in which UN personnel worked and lived. The Secretary-General proposed measures to address those issues, and presented indicative resource projections for establishing minimum welfare and recreation kits.

The Secretariat had taken measures to improve the welfare of all categories of peacekeeping personnel, which addressed commissaries and utilities and travel for leave and recreational purposes. Specific measures applicable to UN police officers and military observers included compensatory time-off policy. Measures applicable to military contingents and formed police units addressed annual leave, adequate access to communication, leave centres within or outside the mission area and minimum recreation facilities. The Secretary-General invited the Assembly to take note of those measures and to approve the establishment of minimum welfare and recreation standards.
The report concluded that strengthened welfare programmes would add to the well-being of all personnel and enhance the morale and efficiency of peacekeepers. A minimum standard of welfare and recreation throughout missions would promote adherence to codes of conduct and discipline by alleviating adverse conditions. It would also help to reduce the level of staff turnover and foster a shared sense of purpose among the personnel serving the United Nations.

On 7 April, the General Assembly deferred consideration of the Secretary-General’s report until its sixty-fourth session (decision 63/550 C).

Death and disability

The Special Committee [A/63/19] expressed concern that the UN death and disability claims process for peacekeeping personnel was overly cumbersome, lengthy and lacking in transparency. It also noted that discrepancies existed between the compensation benefits provided to experts on mission and those provided to members of contingents. The Special Committee in that context recalled section X of General Assembly resolution 61/276 [YUN 2007, p. 81], on death and disability claims, and requested that the Secretary-General ensure its implementation.

Training

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/266 [YUN 2006, p. 89], the Secretary-General, in January, reported [A/63/680] on the progress of training in peacekeeping, reviewing the key findings of a peacekeeping training needs assessment and the training strategy that had been implemented to meet priority needs. The report reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the various offices and sections, both at Headquarters and in the field. It described the training initiatives being undertaken throughout DPKO and DFS, and examined the resources required as well as the methods and localities for peacekeeping training.

While much work had been done to improve training, further work was needed to finalize and implement a new training strategy, the Secretary-General said. Peacekeeping personnel were increasingly required to operate in complex, changing and challenging conditions, which required that the United Nations deploy personnel able to perform a variety of tasks across different functional areas, often in difficult environments and with limited resources. A strategic training needs assessment undertaken in the first half of 2008 by the Integrated Training Service—a shared resource that supported DPKO, DFS, peacekeeping missions and Member States—examined the three main phases of peacekeeping training: prior to deployment to a mission; on arrival at a mission or at Headquarters; and throughout a peacekeeping assignment.

Accordingly, a new UN peacekeeping training strategy was developed and approved in May 2008, with a view to creating a training system that met the needs of modern, complex peacekeeping operations. The strategy redefined the role that each office should play vis-à-vis field missions, Headquarters and Member States, to maximize comparative advantage, expertise and value. It aimed to enable peacekeeping personnel to meet evolving challenges, perform their specialist functions in an effective, professional and integrated manner, and demonstrate the core UN values and competencies.

As UN peacekeeping was an ongoing, long-term effort, effective training must be linked to career development and the establishment of a cadre of peacekeeping professionals, the Secretary-General said. The United Nations had made considerable progress in developing and implementing peacekeeping training. Predeployment, induction and ongoing training were steadily improving and continued progress could be expected. Nevertheless, the Organization must be realistic about what could be achieved. While the new training strategy established clear goals and mechanisms, limited resources meant that not all training needs could be met. Member States and training partners were therefore encouraged to continue to support the two Departments in those efforts.

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Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consideration. The Special Committee [A/63/19] reaffirmed the need to ensure that all personnel selected for peacekeeping missions had the required professional background, expertise and training, and recalled the shared responsibility of the Member States and the Secretariat concerning the training of personnel to be deployed in UN peacekeeping operations. It took note of the development by DPKO of its UN peacekeeping training strategy. It also took note of the ongoing work of the Integrated Training Service concerning the development of a set of minimum training standards and training modules. It welcomed the updating of training material with information on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and on HIV/AIDS.

Acknowledging that the complex and multidimensional nature of peacekeeping demanded expertise and experience that most Member States could not muster on a continuous basis, the Special Committee encouraged cooperation in peacekeeping training among Member States, including through the provision of training opportunities and assistance to
new and emerging troop-contributing countries. It expressed support for the efforts of Member States and regional arrangements to enhance the capacity of peacekeeping personnel at peacekeeping training centres. It expressed support for the efforts of DPKO in providing those peacekeeping training centres, as well as national training focal points, with guidance on training.

Looking forward to further improvement of the standardized training modules for potential senior mission leaders, the Special Committee renewed its call for the finalization of training standards and guidelines for formed police units, as well as the finalization of specialized training modules for police. It welcomed the first standardized UN police predeployment training curriculum and mission-specific training, and noted the recent predeployment mission-specific training that was conducted in partnership with the Secretariat and Member States, which resulted in an increase from 10 to 70 per cent of newly deployed police personnel receiving predeployment training. It stressed the importance of maintaining an appropriate support and guidance capacity at UN Headquarters to ensure oversight and guidance to the field and to complement the work of the Integrated Training Service.

The Special Committee welcomed the integrated distance learning programmes provided to the peacekeeping missions by the Peace Operations Training Institute, and urged DPKO and the Institute to work together to promote the e-learning programmes. It underlined that training and awareness-raising in regard to misconduct were among the key elements in ensuring the orderly conduct of UN personnel, a matter in which troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat played important roles.