Introduction

On 7-8 September, 2016, the UK had the privilege of co-hosting, in London, the largest ever gathering of Defence Ministers dedicated to UN Peacekeeping.

The meeting took place a year after the September 2015 Leaders’ Summit in New York, an event jointly hosted by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and US President Barack Obama. The New York event generated significant commitments of military and police capabilities from a number of member states, including the UK. As well as more than 40,000 troops and police, states also pledged key resources such as helicopters, engineering units and field hospitals.

At the London event, the UK and nine co-host nations – Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Rwanda, Uruguay and the USA – welcomed Ministers of Defence or their representatives from 70 countries in order to build on those commitments and to consider the systemic challenges facing UN peacekeeping deployments. The meeting generated 30 new offers of personnel and equipment and, through the event’s communiqué, set out ambitious new targets, including to increase the role of women in peacekeeping and to make deployments faster. A wide range of speakers addressed the key challenges of peacekeeping, including the UN, Defence Ministers, NGOs from the UK and the Democratic Republic of Congo, current and former peacekeepers, and the Special Envoy of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and co-founder of the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative, Angelina Jolie Pitt. There was a particular focus throughout on how a “3Ps” approach to peacekeeping reform could help: better planning of missions, more pledges of personnel and equipment, and better performance by peacekeepers.

The event began with a reception attended by the Prime Minister, followed by a plenary day, introduced by Secretary of State for Defence Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon MP and closed by Foreign Secretary Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP. UN Under-Secretaries-General Hervé Ladsous (Department of Peacekeeping Operations) and Atul Khare (Department of Field Support) led the UN delegation, which also included Dr. Jane Holl Lute, the Secretary-General’s Special Co-ordinator on Improving the UN Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.
Objectives

The aims of the event were threefold:

1. **Implementation of Pledges**: to review progress on the implementation of pledges from the Leaders’ Summit, commitments received since, and the UN’s current and emerging requirements. It was also an opportunity for countries that did not participate in the Leaders’ Summit to make new pledges, and for member states and international organisations to make any additional pledges.

2. **Women in Peacekeeping**: to develop a coherent, shared plan to ensure that peacekeeping contributed to the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. This included commitments to increase the participation of women in peacekeeping and to mainstream gender perspectives into all peacekeeping missions.

3. **Improving Peacekeeping**: to ensure that the pledges could be operationalised effectively through improvements in force generation, training, pre-deployment processes, doctrine, equipment, leadership, performance on the ground, lessons learned mechanisms and by developing a rapid response capability. This included discussions on how to prevent and respond to incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Plenary Discussions

The meeting agenda was made up of five formal sessions: Pledges; Improving Peacekeeping—Women, Peace and Security; Improving Peacekeeping—Pre and Post Deployment; Improving Peacekeeping—Sexual Exploitation and Abuse; and Improving Peacekeeping—Rapid Deployment. This report summarises these sessions and the main speeches.

Opening Remarks

Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon MP, Secretary of State for Defence and Mr Hervé Ladsous, Head of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)

The Secretary of State opened by calling for a minute’s silence for the 3,000 peacekeepers who had lost their lives on active mission. He then went on to set out his hopes for the meeting: to see it contribute to UN Peacekeeping being able to do more, but also to do it better. With regards to planning, he emphasised the challenge of matching resources to need and of ensuring that the UN was able to get the right capabilities in the right place at the right time. Cooperation between nations was important, as well as the need to be prepared for the unexpected.

He recalled the success of the Leaders’ Summit in terms of pledges generated, but how it was important now to turn these into capability in missions. He underlined the UK’s commitment and plans to deploy a role 2 hospital in support of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and to build a permanent hospital there in due course. Driving peacekeeping performance was also vital, including the need for troops to be appropriately trained and equipped and—in light of some shocking incidents—taking a zero tolerance approach to sexual exploitation and abuse.

Mr Ladsous made three main observations. Firstly, that delivery of the pledges made in 2015 had exceeded expectations and showed the determination of UN member states. Secondly, he highlighted the commitment to a global partnership for peacekeeping in the form both of the pledges and the commitment to reform. The UN could provide the necessary legitimacy and drive that partnership. Lastly, he noted that UN Peacekeeping could do more to engage women. He called for further commitments through the adoption of national action plans to increase female contributions.

He also cited specific capability challenges for UN missions in increasingly complex and challenging environments. He noted that DPKO was developing a policy framework for intelligence support in missions, based on experience gained from the UN mission in Mali (MINUSMA). Intelligence support had been a long-term challenge for UN Peacekeeping. Linked to it, he noted the need for more advanced capabilities such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and, in particular, helicopters. He highlighted the value of innovative partnerships, such as the five-nation agreement (Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Portugal and Sweden) to provide tactical airlift capability to MINUSMA.
Session 1: Pledges

Moderator: General Sir Gordon Messenger, Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff

Speakers: Hervé Ladsous, Head of UN DPKO and Atul Khare, Head of the UN Department of Field Support (DFS)

Contributors: Canada, Argentina, Tunisia, Tanzania, Peru, Nigeria and Belgium

Thirty member states made additional pledges of military capability prior to or at the meeting. These are listed at Annex A. These new pledges were encouraging, as was the extent and enthusiasm of the commitment they represented. However, there remained significant capability needs. MINUSMA, for example, needed additional intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) assets, along with helicopters and riverine mobility, attack helicopters and Special Forces. UNMISS needed UAVs, combat engineers, military police, role 2 hospitals and helicopters. Overall, UN Peacekeeping had a shortfall in helicopters and faced capability gaps in a number of areas: medical, sanitation, environmental health, engineering, technology (including communications equipment) and force protection, for example, countering improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

While the immediate focus was on strengthening current missions, and particularly MINUSMA and UNMISS, it was likely that, by early 2017, the additional pledges would give the UN the potential to deploy a brigade-sized force. However, there was a need for staff officers with skills and experience in those areas that were relatively new to UN Peacekeeping, including the management of UAVs and countering IEDs. Whilst gender balance was improving, working towards the target of making 15% of military observers and staff officers female, along with 20% in police components, would be a vital area of focus for member states’ efforts.

The discussion highlighted concerns that some capability pledges declared by member states did not meet the necessary training or equipment requirements. Training needed to be effective, standardised and sustainable; there was merit in utilising triangular partnerships between the UN, troop-contributing countries (TCCs) and experienced militaries. Given that there had been 450 cases relating to conduct and discipline amongst peacekeepers from 68 countries, effective pre-deployment training, in addition to effective prevention, enforcement and remediation approaches, was essential—particularly for preventing sexual exploitation and abuse. There also had to be greater opportunities for the training and development of female peacekeepers, including specialist courses at peacekeeping training centres. Lastly, there was a need for a greater range of language skills among peacekeepers—French was of particular importance to current missions.

Session 2: Improving Peacekeeping—Women, Peace and Security

Introduction: Rt Hon Mike Penning MP, Minister for the Armed Forces

Moderator: Senator Marise Payne, Minister of Defence—Australia

Speakers: General Sir Gordon Messenger; Ine Marie Eriksen Søreide, Minister of Defence—Norway; Major General (Retired) Tarique Ahmed Siddique, Defence Adviser to the Prime Minister—Bangladesh; Kenji Wakamiya, State Minister of Defence—Japan

Contributors: Serbia, Solange Lwashiga (NGO - Rien Sans Les Femmes), Major General Kristin Lund (former Force Commander—UNFICYP), Ireland, Ghana, India, Cambodia, Brazil, Egypt and Indonesia.

The session focused on why women had a key role in improving peacekeeping, but also what could be done to improve their participation. Effective peacekeeping, and particularly the protection of civilians, required a close working relationship with all sectors of the population. This needed to be reflected in the composition of the mission. MONUSCO, the UN’s mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and which consumed 20% of the peacekeeping budget, was one mission that stood to benefit from engaging women in peacebuilding and the design of protection systems. Women had a vital role to play in conflict resolution. The involvement of women in peacekeeping missions could improve behaviours and culture, with positive wider effects on conduct and discipline. Improving gender balance in missions and continuing to engage men on gender issues were key priorities.

Speakers and contributors highlighted the practical commitments being made to increase female participation in UN Peacekeeping and in domestic militaries and police forces more generally. The targets set out earlier in this report would be a challenge for those member states starting from a low initial baseline. However, there was wide recognition that developing national action plans to deliver the broader Women, Peace and Security agenda (covered by UN Security Council Resolution 1325) could provide the direction needed for women’s participation to grow.

Getting more women into senior roles in DPKO and DFS was seen as key to ensuring that the UN system, as well as member states, demonstrated its commitment to better gender balance. There was also recognition that gender should form part of all peacekeeping training.
Session 3: Improving Peacekeeping—Pre and Post Deployment

Moderator: Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, Minister of Defence—Netherlands

Speakers: Lieutenant General Maqsood Ahmed, Military Adviser to the UN Secretary General; Major General Michael Lollesgaard, Force Commander MINUSMA; Major General Yoedhi Swastanto – Director General for Defence Strategy – Indonesia; General Kabarebe, Defence Minister – Rwanda and Ash Carter, Secretary of Defence – United States

Contributors: Portugal, Sweden, NATO, Emma Fanning (NGO Coalition) and Uruguay.

This session addressed the third of the “3Ps” of peacekeeping: performance. The success of a mission could be seen as the outcome of three related factors: the capability to perform, the will to perform, and leadership. Capability was arguably the most critical of these. Relevant, appropriate and effective pre-deployment and in-mission training was essential to ensure that contingents were prepared for the demanding nature of peacekeeping mission environments. Despite improvements, contingents were sometimes still being deployed without sufficient preparation. The importance of adapting training to meet changing threats was a priority, particularly in areas such as countering IEDs, where the right training could prevent casualties. A process of on-mission evaluation was seen as key to ensuring that training matched the needs and drove the necessary changes. Partnerships were important, particularly between member states and international organisations with more experience and advanced capabilities and those with less. This was also an important way of driving up standards of conduct and discipline. At the same time, the UN needed to be prepared to remove failing units from missions.

Some participants suggested that problems around will and drive to perform flowed not only from inadequate equipment and preparation, but also from diverse and inconsistent attitudes to peacekeeping and the existence of declared and undeclared caveats attached to national contributions. Peacekeepers could often be seen as remote from the communities they were supposed to protect and as lacking accountability for failing to protect civilians. Tackling such perceptions and challenges required high-quality mission leaders, but also leaders with autonomy from interventions by member states. Leadership in UN peacekeeping contexts was substantially more challenging than leadership in the national context. So the process of selection and nomination by member states and the UN needed to be more robust, and leaders empowered with both resources and the necessary authority.

Speech: Angelina Jolie Pitt—Special Envoy to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Ms Jolie Pitt welcomed the initiative from the UK and co-hosts that had led to the meeting and reaffirmed the importance of peacekeeping in addressing challenges to international peace and security. She highlighted the importance of the commitment to double the number of female UN Peacekeepers within four years, but emphasised that this was insufficient unless it formed part of a new way of conducting peacekeeping where the needs, rights and protection of women was at its heart. Military effectiveness required women to be considered at all stages of the planning process. Missions needed the tools to be able to prevent large-scale violence, including sexual violence, as well as to eliminate cases of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers. Given that the protection of civilians was a core function of peacekeeping, this was vital. It was also impossible for peacekeeping operations to build trust with local communities when women were not engaged from the outset.

Ms Jolie Pitt welcomed the inaugural award of the UN International Military Gender Advocate of the year (given to Major Achitatou Ousmane Issaka from Nigeria for her work in Mali) as evidence of the practical action needed in order to deliver the Women, Peace and Security agenda. She called on states signing the communiqué to live up to their commitments, however challenging. This was not just a moral imperative, but an operational one.
Session 4a: Improving Peacekeeping—Tackling Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Introducer: Rt Hon Baroness Anelay, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Speakers: Jane Holl Lute, UN Special Coordinator on Improving the UN Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse; Dr Jorge Mendez, Minister of Defence - Uruguay

The speakers called for a measurable strengthening of the UN system to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse. Ultimately, the eradication of such behaviours demanded a unified, organised and prioritised effort across the UN system. Effective screening, clear definitions of standards of performance and behaviour, and reinforcement through training were all important. It was also important to inform populations of the standards of conduct that they should expect and what they could do in the event those standards were not met. When victims did come forward, it was essential—in terms of accountability—that they remained informed about the progress and outcomes of any investigations.

The view was expressed that whilst the UN system clearly had a significant role to play with regards to allegations made against its peacekeepers, the primary responsibility lay with member states in ensuring the conduct of their troops and police. Uruguay had responded positively to allegations against its peacekeepers by introducing procedures, practices and training on SEA. Its pre-deployment training stressed that individuals would be held responsible for their actions. Steps such as these were important and in the right direction, as well as vital both to UN Peacekeeping and the communities it deployed to protect.

Session 4b: Improving Peacekeeping—Rapid Deployment

Introducer: Atul Khare, Head of UN DFS

Moderator: Sir Nicholas Kay, former Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Somalia

Speakers: General Chang Wanquan, Minister of Defence – China; Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Defence – France; Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Minister of Defence – Pakistan; Lieutenant General Birhanu Jula Gelelecha – Ethiopia

Contributors: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Italy

The meeting heard how, under current arrangements, any major new peacekeeping force took six months to deploy. This was clearly not sufficient for meeting peace and security challenges, but simply getting troops on the ground without adequate preparation or support was also not an option—and it could make a bad situation worse. Challenges facing the UN system included the need for the UN Secretariat to be better prepared for the rapid deployment of missions, as well as establishing the necessary funding mechanisms.

There was evidence that some member states had capabilities that could be deployed in shorter time scales at the sort of levels of effort required, but also a recognition that there was a resource burden in sustaining forces at high readiness; this needed to be shared. Critical enabling capabilities such as medical and ISR support also needed to be in place, along with robust and advanced logistics capabilities. Plans for a Vanguard Brigade of 4000 troops were outlined, with both China and Pakistan indicating a willingness to commit formations. Other member states highlighted their own experience of successful rapid deployment, but some noted procedural and process challenges in order to equip contingents with UN-provided equipment. The meeting concluded that rapid deployment was hard, but essential in order to meet the challenges of contemporary peacekeeping successfully.

Closing Remarks

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach, Chief of the Defence Staff; Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Defence – France; Atul Khare, Head of UN DFS; Hervé Ladsous, Head of UN DPKO; Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, Foreign Secretary

The closing speeches recognised progress and the need for momentum to be maintained. In closing the event, Sir Stuart Peach summarised the main themes of the meeting, highlighting the degree of commitment that member states represented had demonstrated for UN Peacekeeping. Mr Ladsous and Mr Khare reiterated the importance of peacekeeping to the credibility of the UN and the positive ways in which member states were engaging with the process through pledges of capability and a willingness to do more to improve peacekeeping, notably on the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Khare called on member states to continue to register pledges with the UN’s Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System and stressed that peacekeeping operations would need continued support be able to act rapidly, effectively, efficiently and responsibly. Mr Le Drian also commented on the progress being made and drew attention to a conference focused on the Francophone contribution, to be held in France on 26-27 October, 2016.

The Foreign Secretary closed the meeting by first thanking all those present for their commitment to UN Peacekeeping and hence to international peace and security. He emphasised the UK’s own commitment and called on participants to support the “3Ps” approach to peacekeeping and the communiqué. On pledges, he hoped that the increasing number would ultimately enable the UN to reach a position where it was able to select troops for missions rather than having to rely on those that were simply available. He also advocated the representation of women in all aspects of peacekeeping, and highlighted the importance of accountability for failures of performance, misconduct and ill-discipline by peacekeepers. Lastly, he offered praise for peacekeepers and said that those undertaking such challenging operations deserved the full support of the international community.

Canada will host a follow-up meeting in 2017. This will be an opportunity to take stock of progress on pledges made in London and on delivering the commitments set out in the communiqué.
Ash Carter, the United States Secretary of Defence

Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon MP with French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian

Major Issaka receives Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award from Rt Hon Baroness Anelay, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Australian Defence Minister, Senator Marise Payne speaking on the panel for Improving Peacekeeping - Women, Peace and Security
China’s Defence Minister General Chang Wanquan
## Annex A – New Pledges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Capability Pledged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Air Movements Control Unit, Mobile Military Hospital, Water Well Drilling Engineer Unit, Engineer Company (with Chile)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Military Community Outreach Unit, Firefighting Capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Combined Arms Tactical Sub-Group, Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition Reconnaissance Detachment, Transport Aircraft (C130 and A321), 4 Military Utility Helicopters, 6 Fighter Jets, UAV Unit, Maritime Unit, Maritime Support Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>Force Protection Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>Infantry Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Up to 600 personnel and 150 Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>Formed Police Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Infantry Battalion, Level 2 Hospital, Heavy Transport Company, Combat Cavalry Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>UAV Unit for MINUSCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</td>
<td>Utility and Attack Helicopters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Amphibious Ship (LST), Infantry Company, Transport Aircraft (C130)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Military Police Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>High Thermal Imaging Technology, Advisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Infantry Company, Headquarters Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>Motorized Infantry Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Engineering Company, Infantry Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>Level 2 Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Water Purification Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>Engineering Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Task Group for MINUSMA, Police Officers, Civilian Experts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Infantry Battalion, Regional Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Force Headquarters Support Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Explosive Ordnance Disposal/Engineering Group, Military Engineer General Support Unit, Military Observers and Staff Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Infantry Company (Quick Reaction Force), Transport Aircraft (C130)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Police Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>4 x Military Utility Helicopters, Transport Aircraft (2 x C130), Medical Teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Motorised Infantry Battalion, Combat Engineer Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>Infantry Battalion, Military Police Squad, Medical Platoon, Transport Aircraft (C130)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>Infantry Battalion, Demining Platoon, 2 x Military Utility Helicopter</td>
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</tbody>
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Annex B – Ministerial Communiqué

The Governments of Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Finland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, Uruguay, Vietnam and Zambia jointly declare their support for the following:

United Nations Peacekeeping is an indispensable part of the international community’s response to threats to international peace and security. Effective prevention of, and response to, many of today’s threats to international peace and security require partnerships with other countries. UN Peacekeeping is one of the most tangible examples of effective partnership and is unique in its ability to leverage the strengths of many states. UN Peacekeeping can contribute to the resolution of conflicts, prevent their recurrence and create the stability necessary for peace to flourish. Peacekeeping is in the national security interest of all nations. We salute the contribution of the brave men and women that serve in peacekeeping missions, and remember with sadness those who have sacrificed their lives in support of this cause.

Modern conflicts demand modern responses. Peacekeeping must be deployed as part of a broader strategy and must be more field-oriented and people-centred. Today’s peacekeepers must be able to successfully implement their mandates, including protecting civilians, themselves and their assets. We reaffirm the basic principles of peacekeeping, including consent of the parties, impartiality, and the non-use of force except in self-defence and in defence of the mandate, noting that these are consistent with mandates authorised by the Security Council that seek to tackle new challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, such as force protection and safety and security, protection of civilians, and asymmetric threats. We welcome this opportunity for Defence Ministers and their representatives to come together to ensure sustained follow-up to the Leaders’ Summit on Peacekeeping and to discuss practical improvements to the ways in which peacekeeping missions are conducted.

We recall the report of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Panel’s recommendations. We also recall the high-level review of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), the report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture. We underline the importance of improving UN policing and note the findings of the External Review of the UN Police Division.

We must always strive to ensure that peacekeeping is as effective as possible, and evolves to meet today’s challenges, and the challenges of tomorrow. That calls for improvements in three areas, the “three Ps” of peacekeeping: planning, pledges and performance. Modern peacekeeping demands improved political and military planning throughout the mission lifecycle, with clear and sequenced mandates. It needs Members States to pledge well trained and equipped personnel that give missions the capability to deliver those mandates. And it needs high levels of performance from civilian and uniformed peacekeepers, underpinned by effective and accountable leadership. Achieving progress across these three areas is of critical importance to all Member States, and is dependent on cooperation and partnership built on mutual trust among Members of the Security Council, troop- and police-contributing countries and the UN Secretariat so that decisions taken on peacekeeping benefit from the views of those serving in the field.

Pledges

We welcome the outstanding contribution made by the Leaders’ Summit on Peacekeeping in New York in September 2015. We also recall the Chiefs of Defence Conference in March 2015 and the United Nations Chiefs of Police Summit (UN COPS) in New York in June 2016. We reaffirm our support for the Leaders’ Summit on Peacekeeping declaration, which recommits us to working together to improve peacekeeping.

We welcome the pledges made by 52 Member States and international organisations at the Leaders’ Summit, and the 30 new pledges that have been made since then, including those by Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bhutan, Burundi, Canada, Chad, Egypt, France, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zambia, and those made at UN COPS in June 2016. Collectively these pledges provide an exceptional step forward in the capabilities available to the UN. We call on Member States and the Secretariat to work together to ensure these commitments are ready for deployment and encourage all Member States to ensure that their pledges are ready and available for use by registering them through the new Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System. We call on all Member States to offer further pledges that meet identified capability gaps.

We welcome the establishment and work of the Strategic Force Generation and Capability Planning Cell and call on the Secretary-General to ensure it is able to perform fully its functions, and appreciate the work of the Office of Military
Affairs and the Police Division and ask the Secretary-General to continue to proactively identify and address capability gaps for the delivery of current peacekeeping mission mandates, as well as future anticipated capability needs.

We need peacekeepers that are capable and willing of rapidly responding to emerging crises. We welcome the commitments of Member States at the London Ministerial to make their military and police units available for rapid deployment, and encourage others to come forward with similar units that are deployable within 30, 60 or 90 days. We urge the Secretariat to consider a range of methods to adequately encourage troop- and police-contributing countries to maintain rapidly deployable stand-by units. We urge all troop- and police-contributing countries to streamline their deployment processes and call on the Secretariat to facilitate the process of pledges moving to higher states of readiness. We call on the Secretariat and the troop- and police-contributing countries to ensure that at least 12,000 troops and police are at Level 3 of the PCRS by the end of 2016 and that 4,000 of those are pledged at the Rapid Deployment Level. We further call on the Secretary-General to ensure that the UN, in particular the Departments of Management, Field Support and Peacekeeping Operations, has the systems in place to deploy, absorb and sustain these newly pledged assets rapidly and in accordance with the specific needs of individual missions, including in such areas as airlift, rapid engineering support, force headquarters and police and civilian recruitment.

We recognise the indispensable role of women in UN Peacekeeping, and in conflict resolution as a whole, and underscore that their participation at all levels is key to the operational effectiveness of missions as well as to the success and sustainability of peace processes. We remain committed to increasing the participation of women in uniformed roles, and we want to see the integration of women's needs and gender perspectives into all aspects of peacekeeping. We urge the Secretary General to prioritise the appointment of more women in senior UN leadership positions and to double the numbers of women in military and police contingents of UN peacekeeping operations by 2020. We call on all Member States to increase the number of women as individual police officers as assets of special teams and formed police units, as well as in leadership positions and professional posts to reach the target of 20 percent launched through the Global Effort initiative in 2009. Member States should also prioritise the nomination of more female correction officers. We further call on all Member States to develop and implement National Action Plans on Women, Peace, and Security, and to increase the number of women officers serving in missions as Staff Officers and Military Observers, and attending UN Staff Office and Military Observer Training Courses. We aim for 15% of such roles being filled by women by December 2017. We also ask Member States to ensure all their training is gender-sensitive and where necessary includes training to advance specific skills of women officers in relation to the role of Military Observer. Every UN peacekeeping mission should have the ability to engage with women as well as men in UN mission areas. We urge the Secretary-General to work with Member States to increase the number of UN women mediators. We support the appointment of more women in senior UN leadership positions and to double the number of women peacekeepers by 2020.

Military Observer Team sites including Mixed Engagement Teams with multiple women officers and mixed Formed Police Units of at least one platoon of women officers. We call for Military and Police Gender Advisers in both Field Mission Headquarters and within each self-sustaining formed unit.

We encourage the Secretary-General to continue to take steps to strengthen the accountability of senior leaders for mainstreaming gender and improving gender balance in their respective missions and departments and welcome the introduction of gender targets as performance indicators in all compacts with senior managers at United Nations headquarters and in the field. We call on all Member States to take substantive measures to increase gender balance in peacekeeping; there are a variety of ways to support this action, including appointing Gender Champions in their national systems, taking steps to increase the number of women in their national militaries, and providing the UN with information on what military roles are open to servicewomen alongside a breakdown of the proportion of male and female officers by rank. These measures should act as a stepping stone to fulfilling the Security Council’s request in resolution 2242 to, as a minimum, double the number of women peacekeepers by 2020.

Planning

We call upon the Secretary-General to ensure that mission planning and assessment fully integrates the military, police and civilian parts of the mission, and takes into account other partners including the host government and regional actors, to accomplish the mandated tasks, and that mission planning and assessment considers from the outset how missions will complement the work of existing UN staff in-country. Improved assessments are essential for the planning process to better programme capacity building, develop realistic mandate implementation options, establish objective accountability requirements and define expectations. We urge that the needs and participation of women be integrated at all stages of the planning process. We further stress the importance of ensuring that assessment and planning processes enable missions to prevent and respond to risks of violence against civilians, including in their most extreme
form of mass atrocities. We welcome the establishment of the Strategic Analysis and Planning capacity in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, which aims to strengthen the analysis of, and responses to, emerging conflict, and encourage greater engagement with Member States regarding its work. Recognising that the experience and expertise of troop- and police-contributing countries can greatly assist the planning of peacekeeping operations, we underscore the importance of effective consultations among the Security Council, troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat during planning processes. We also highlight the need for strategic communication in the countries where missions are deployed to clearly communicate the role and objectives of the mission to the local population.

We call on the UN to ensure that Force Commanders are empowered to have more control over the use of mission assets in-extremis situations, including medical and casualty evacuations. As Member States we will strive to ensure that missions and contingents have access to appropriate expertise, technological capabilities and resources to improve safety and security in dangerous environments, including night-flying capacity and appropriate means of communication.

We encourage the Secretary-General to enhance missions’ intelligence capacities and to develop a more cohesive and integrated UN system that stretches from the field to headquarters. These intelligence capacities can increase situational awareness, enhance the safety and security of UN personnel and assets, and improve the delivery of mission mandates, including the protection of civilians.

Performance

Better assessment and planning, and a broader and stronger set of capabilities generated by pledges, are the foundation of better performance. That requires peacekeepers to be properly equipped, trained and led. While the majority of UN personnel perform well, the few who do not are all too visible and there are inadequate measures in place to enhance performance. The performance of military and police personnel is a collective responsibility of Member States and the Secretariat. Notwithstanding that troop- and police-contributing countries remain responsible for the delivery of training we recognise that there is a further necessity to set out in a single place a comprehensive list of the minimum requirements and standards for all pre-deployment training, including key protection tasks such as preventing conflict-related sexual violence. We support the establishment of the UN Training of Trainers Centre.

We reaffirm the importance of peacekeepers delivering fully on their mandated responsibilities to protect civilians; in this context we note the initiative by Member States to develop, as relevant, the best practices set out in the Kigali Principles. Instances of misconduct or the failure to carry out mandated tasks effectively, especially when they are not addressed transparently and robustly, undermine confidence in the will and capability of the UN. We call on the Secretary-General to carry out his commitment to report all such instances to the Security Council and to take clear actions to ensure accountability for them, including through developing further the steps taken to assess performance of units and staff, mechanisms to train-up poor performers where possible, and for replacement where needed. We call upon the Secretary-General to develop the means for capturing and sharing instances of best practice, including lessons learned from addressing poor performance and misconduct, in the field so that the UN and peacekeeping nations can learn from those experiences.

Successful missions require capable, courageous and accountable leadership. We call on the Secretary-General to improve and strengthen the competitive assessment methodology developed to select candidates for senior leadership positions, to ensure a transparent selection process based on merit, competence, and the needs of individual missions. We commit to nominating experienced and capable personnel for senior positions. We encourage the Secretary-General to expand his pilot mentoring programme, which provides support and additional training for Heads and deputy Heads of Mission. We encourage Member States to support this initiative by making available former senior leaders to participate as mentors. We call upon Member States to use senior leadership courses and to commit to assign their most capable officers to lead and participate in peacekeeping. Within this we affirm the urgent need for more women in leadership positions. We call on the Secretary-General to develop a cadre of experienced future candidates for senior leadership positions.

All UN personnel deployed in UN peacekeeping operations must be committed to the highest standards of conduct. We underscore our commitment and support to the Secretary-General’s zero tolerance policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and commend and support the comprehensive initiatives in his enhanced programme of action to protect against sexual exploitation and abuse as set out in the report to the General Assembly A/69/779 and A/70/729 of February 2015 and 2016 and we are committed to taking serious and concerted action to combat SEA. We also support the important work being undertaken by the Secretary-General’s Special Coordinator on Improving United Nations’ Response to Allegations of SEA. We reiterate the need for Member States to fully vet and train their troops before deployment, and to ensure that National Investigation Officers are included in all military units deployed to a field mission. We commend the enhanced collaboration between the United Nations and Member States and the steps taken through this important partnership to prevent, investigate and hold accountable personnel for acts of SEA. Victims must be placed at the centre of efforts to protect and assist and appeal to Member States to support the initiative of the Secretary-General.

We highlight the continued need to strengthen measures against all forms of abuse and exploitation by any member of a United Nations peacekeeping mission. We underscore the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolution 2272 (2016) for tackling SEA cases in peacekeeping missions. We note the Secretary-General’s operational guidance on Security Council resolution 2272. We recognise the commitment and important role of troop- and police
contributing countries and UN peacekeeping operations in preventing conflict-related sexual violence consistent with Security Council resolutions 1960 and 2106, and underline the need for continued focussed engagement of these actors to combat this scourge, including through contributing to stronger monitoring, analysis and information on incidents and perpetrators of sexual violence, and facilitating engagement with parties to conflict for protection commitments.

We support the Secretary-General’s call for a renewed focus on the primacy of politics and recognise that peacekeeping is intended to support, not substitute for, the implementation of political strategies and agreements that ensure sustainable peace. Achieving lasting agreements that resolve conflict remains in the hands of the parties to that conflict. By committing today to strengthen planning, consider increasing our pledges, and ensure the performance of peacekeeping operations, we work collectively to better enable the United Nations to achieve lasting, sustainable peace. Building effective institutions and democratic practices to help countries emerge from conflict and instability are primarily the responsibilities of state governments and societies that host UN peacekeeping operations. We also remind all countries hosting a peacekeeping mission and all parties to conflicts of their obligations related to the safety of peacekeeping personnel and assets and call on these countries to respect the mission’s freedom of movement and action in support of its mandate. We reaffirm the critical role that peacekeeping missions play to address today’s international peace and security challenges and their potential to continue to meet the challenge of the dynamic threat environment that we face as individual nations and as an international community. We remain committed to ensuring that our national militaries, police services, and civilian staff are able to meet the new and growing demands of peacekeeping and that the UN Secretariat is able to utilise our contributions to their greatest effect.
UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial: London 2016, Lancaster House, 7-8 September

Attendance list

Delegation  Head of Delegation

1. African Union  Chairperson’s Special Representative – Mr Larry Gbevlo-Lartey
2. Argentina  Foreign Minister – Mrs S M Malcorra
3. Armenia  First Deputy Minister of Defence – Mr D Tonoyan
4. Australia  Defence Minister – Senator M A Payne
5. Austria  Defence Minister – Mr H P Dosokol
6. Azerbaijan  Defence Minister – Mr Z Hasanov
7. Bangladesh*  Defence Adviser to the Prime Minister - Mr T. A. Siddique
8. Belgium  Defence Minister – Mr S Vandeput
9. Brazil  Chief of Joint General Staff – Admiral A Sobrinho
10. Cambodia  Defence Minister – Mr B Tea
11. Canada  Minister of National Defence – Mr S Harjit
12. Chile  Defence Minister - Mr J A Gomez
13. China  Defence Minister – General Chang Wanquan
14. Colombia  Ambassador – Mr N Osorio
15. Croatia  Defence Minister – Mr J Buljević
16. Czech Republic  Defence Minister – Mr M Stropnický
17. Colombia  Deputy Permanent Secretary of State for Defence - Mr K Fischer
18. Egypt  Chief of Liaison Agency with International Organizations – General O Ali
19. El Salvador  Ambassador – Mrs E Hayek Weinmann
20. Ethiopia*  Army Commander – Lt Gen B Gelelecha
21. European Union  Director General EU Military Staff – Lt General E Pulkkinen
22. Fiji  High Commissioner – Mr J Tikolevu
23. Finland  Permanent Secretary – Mr J Tuuvi
24. France  Defence Minister – Mr Le Drian
25. the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia  Deputy Defence Minister – Mr B Maksuti
26. Georgia  Deputy Head of Mission – Mr K Kenkardze
27. Germany  Parliamentary State Secretary – Mr M Grübel
28. Ghana  Defence Minister – Dr B Kumbur
29. Greece  Minister of National Defence – Mr P Kammenos
30. Guatemala  Ambassador – Mr A Valladares-Molina
31. Hungary  Ambassador – Mr K Szalay-Bobrovniczky
32. India  Minister of State for Defence – Mr S R Bhamre
33. Indonesia*  Director General of Defence Strategy – Mr Y Swastanto
34. Ireland  Defence Minister – Paul Kehoe
35. Italy  Under Secretary for Defence – Mr D Rossi
36. Japan*  State Minister of Defence – Mr K Wakamiya
37. Jordan  Chief of Personnel – Mr M Al Qaraleh
38. Kazakhstan  Ambassador – Mr Erzhan Kazhakhov
39. Kenya  Cabinet Secretary – Ambassador R Oumo
40. the Republic of Korea  Chief Director of Military Support at Joint Chiefs of Staff – Lt Gen Kang Gooyoung
41. Lithuania  Vice Minister – Mr A Valsys
42. Malaysia  Defence Minister – Dato’ Seri H Hishamuddin
43. Mexico  Secretary of Defence – General S Cienfuegos
44. NATO  Assistant Secretary General Operations Division – Mr P Turner
45. Nepal  Defence Secretary – Mr M Dahal
46. Netherlands*  Defence Minister – Mrs J Hennis-Plasschaert
47. Nigeria  Defence Minister – Mr M H Dan-Ali
48. Norway  Defence Minister – Mrs I E Søreide
49. Pakistan*  Defence Minister – Mr K Asif
50. Peru  Ambassador – Mr C De La Puente
51. Philippines  Acting Undersecretary for Defense Operations / Undersecretary for Civil, Veteran and Reserve Affairs – Mr E Del Rosario
52. Poland  Undersecretary of State – Mr W Falkowski
53. Portugal  Defence Minister – Mr J Azeredo Lopes
54. Romania  Minister of National Defence – Mr M I Motoc
55. Russia  First Secretary – Mr K Magomedov
56. Rwanda*  Defence Minister – General J Kabarebe
57. Senegal  Ambassador – Mr C A Dieng
58. Serbia  Defence Minister – Mr Z Djordjević
59. Sierra Leone  Deputy Defence Minister – Capt (ret’d) A R Kamara
60. Spain  Defence Minister – Mr P Moreno Eulate
61. Sri Lanka  State Defence Minister - Hon D R Wijewardene
62. Sweden  Defence Minister – Mr P Hultqvist
63. Tanzania  High Commissioner – Mrs A R Migiro
64. Thailand  Defence Minister / Deputy PM – General P Wongwathan
65. Tunisia  Defence Minister – HE F Hachani
66. Turkey  Defence Minister - Mr Fikri Isik
67. Uganda  Minister of State for Defence – Hon O E C Macdonald
68. Ukraine  Defence Minister – General S Poltorak
69. United Kingdom**  Secretary of State for Defence – Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP
70. United Nations*  Under Secretary General – Mr A Khare
71. United States*  Secretary of Defence – The Hon A Carter
72. Uruguay*  Defence Minister – Dr J Menendez
73. Vietnam  Deputy Defence Minister – Col Gen C V Nguyen
74. Zambia  Deputy Army Commander & Chief of Staff – Maj Gen T M Lubaya

* Co-host country
** Host country

Note: Bhutan, Chad, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Singapore and South Africa made pledges, but were unable to send delegations
Further information

Further information about the Ministerial, including full speeches by UK ministers, may be found on the Ministerial website at the following address:

gov.uk/government/topical-events/un-peacekeeping-defence-ministerial-london-2016