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Closing Remarks by Mr. Hervé Ladsous

UNITED NATIONS CHIEFS OF POLICE SUMMIT

**General Assembly Hall
3 June 2016**

Ministers, Senior Chiefs of Police,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

- It is my privilege to be closing this landmark gathering - the UN Chiefs of Police Summit. UN COPS has provided us with a unique opportunity to assess - in straightforward terms - the achievements, gaps and challenges facing UN Police.
- Through your participation here today, I believe this Summit has succeeded in putting forward a clear vision of the future of UN Police. This will carry us forward as we seek to further strengthen police peacekeeping in the years ahead, with tangible benefits for our collective security.
- Let me briefly recall some of the findings of our discussions since this morning.
- Along with our colleagues from the African Union, the European Union, INTERPOL and UNODC, you acknowledged that **global criminal challenges** are indivisible from domestic security threats. We live in a world of interdependence, which requires collective solutions to addressing drivers of conflict and insecurity.
- We discussed that our efforts will, to a large degree, require **further clarity of roles and responsibilities**, effective complementarity, and a division of labour between your national services, international and regional organizations, and UN Police.
- Some of you rightfully reminded us that sustainable peace is built on **national ownership**, national revenues and national capacities.
- You have also considered the evolving role and increasing importance of UN Police, which revealed one of its greatest strengths: the **ability to adapt and evolve**. The Strategic Guidance Framework for International Police Peacekeeping will help ensure coherence in our efforts.

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- Difficult lessons from the past have taught us that **every peacekeeper must be a protector**. Through their community-oriented and intelligence-led approaches, some of our field colleagues demonstrated how UN Police stand at the helm of these efforts.
- At the same time, we all agreed that we must make sure that our UN Police maintain the **highest standards of conduct and discipline** to preserve the credibility of our common enterprise, and to stay true to our principle mission of serving those in need.
- Today, you also heard about how our existing mechanisms are not always suited to meet the new challenges facing us in the field. We shared with you **what we need** for UN Police to be a strategic and forward-looking tool for sustainable peace and security.
- Let me highlight four points, which also capture the suggestions of the Secretary-General to strengthen future UN peace operations:
 - First, the 13,500 UN Policewomen and men serving around the world need tailored and adequately resourced mandates, with political strategies supported by the Security Council.
 - Second, they need strengthened capabilities, effective security arrangements, reliable field support, and access to the latest technology.
 - Third, they also need effective and accountable leadership, professional planning, training and coherent efforts on the ground.
 - Fourth and finally, they need to be able to count on their partners to address today's conflicts and global challenges, which go beyond the capability of any one actor to address them.

Ladies and gentlemen,

- Further strengthening UN Police requires the **active and continued involvement of all Governments, all partners, and – I strongly believe – the entire UN system**.
- The Secretary-General has lent his support to UN Police by requesting an **external, independent review of the Police Division**. This effort reinforces the expectations and commitments expressed today. I look forward to considering the recommendations made by the panel. Now is the time to turn words into action.
- As this eventful day draws to a close, I wish to thank you once again for your participation and your efforts, which have culminated in this important dialogue and the Chair's Note now before you.
- I am grateful to our speakers and moderators for their insightful comments and questions.



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- Last but not least, I would like to express my **sincere appreciation to Police Adviser Stefan Feller and his outstanding team** for their tremendous work in organizing this Summit. Please join me in giving them a round of applause.
- UN Police is your police.

Thank you.