

Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations

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Monsieur le Président, distingués délégués,

C'est pour moi un grand plaisir d'être ici, aujourd'hui, avec vous et de participer une nouvelle fois à cet important débat annuel. Je suis enchanté d'être accompagné de notre nouvelle Secrétaire générale adjointe de l'appui aux missions, Mme Ameerah Haq, qui est entrée en fonction à ce poste avec une connaissance approfondie du maintien de la paix ainsi qu'un fort attachement pour le terrain. Je suis convaincu que vous l'accueillerez avec la même considération que vous avez manifestée à mon égard tout au long de cette année. Ensemble, le DOMP et le DAM travailleront main dans la main afin d'appuyer les 97 000 personnels de maintien de la paix exerçant sur le terrain.

I would like to provide you with an overview of our ongoing operations, before making some remarks on the current strategic context of peacekeeping and presenting some of my policy and reform priorities for the next year.

Operational Overview

UN peacekeeping remains one of the most visible and critical activities of our Organisation. Our operations are more varied than ever, demonstrating the flexible nature of this indispensable political and operational tool.

Last April, we were asked by the Security Council to deploy a mission to Syria at extremely short notice. This experience has demonstrated that UN peacekeeping can, with Member State support, respond even in the most challenging environments. Despite the tight timelines and uncertain conditions, a wide range of TCCs promptly offered personnel, and observers from 60 countries were quickly deployed and commenced operations. It proved that swift deployments are possible, and that highly qualified blue berets can make a difference in a complex and challenging environment. Despite these efforts, security conditions on the ground made the work of our observers unsustainable, and the Council decided not to renew the mandate beyond August. All contributors can, in my mind, be proud of the work of their officers, and of the integrity and bravery with which they served. As all of us know, the evolution of the situation in Syria remains extremely concerning and we remain ready to support the efforts of Joint Special Representative Brahimi in bringing peace and a return to stability in the region.

Close to a third of all peacekeeping troops are currently deployed in Sudan, South Sudan and Abyei. In Darfur, the previous large-scale conflict has largely abated since UNAMID was established in 2008. However, challenges remain, with conflict

continuing between Government and opposition forces, increased criminality and banditry, and restlessness among militia formerly supportive of the Government. Progress has also been slow in the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur. However, in view of the prevailing and projected security situation, the Security Council endorsed the Secretary-General's recommendation to right-size the Mission's military from 19,555 to 16,200 personnel, and that of its police from 3,772 to 2,310 personnel. In its second year of independence, South Sudan has faced significant internal security and state building challenges, which UNMISS is helping to address. The relation between Sudan and South Sudan has also, for the most part of 2012, been dogged by a lack of agreement on the resolution of outstanding issues of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, including the implementation of security arrangements, oil and financial agreements, the establishment of institutions in the Abyei Area where UNISFA has nevertheless succeeded to successfully restore security in the past year and the demarcation and delineation of the contested border. Both countries have also accused each other of cross border incursions and of providing support to their rebel groups. If implemented in good faith, the agreements signed by the two countries in Addis Ababa on 27 September should allow them to focus on building two viable and stable states and UNISFA, in particular, will be responsible for supporting the border security arrangements.

In eastern DRC, the situation has significantly deteriorated with the armed mutiny of the M23, which began in April 2012. The mutiny has taken a heavy toll on the civilian population, already suffering from the activities of other armed groups, including the FDLR, the LRA and the ADF. Countries of the regions, under the auspices of the International Conference for the Great Lakes (ICGLR) have proposed arrangements to address the situation, including a border monitoring mechanism and the creation of a neutral international force. MONUSCO will support these efforts, while continuing to support the Government's capacity to effectively protect the population.

In Côte d'Ivoire, despite progress made towards restoring normalcy since the violent post-election crisis in 2010/11, the country continues to face significant threats and challenges. The root causes of instability are yet to be addressed. The security situation has deteriorated over the past months, particularly in the west and along the border area with Liberia, as well as recently in Abidjan and the east. Efforts underway to facilitate political dialogue, re-launch a DDR process and reform security institutions need to be accelerated. In the meantime, the Secretary-General has recommended that the reduction of UNOCI's military strength by almost a thousand troops be deferred to next year. As mentioned earlier, we are proceeding to right-sizing flexibly and taking into account the situation on the ground.

In Liberia, the progress in the consolidation of peace allows us to consider the reduction of UNMIL's military component by approximately 4,200 troops in three phases between August 2012 and July 2015, during which efforts aimed at supporting the Government of Liberia to build national institutions able to maintain stability independently of a peacekeeping mission should continue. During that period UNMIL will support the people and Government of Liberia to take forward the reforms critical for the sustainability of the fragile peace, including national reconciliation, constitutional reform, security sector reform, and extension of state authority and services throughout the country. While significant, the gains achieved in

West Africa are extremely fragile and vulnerable to reversal. The situation in the border area between Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia remains very unstable, due in particular to cross-border movements of armed groups. UNOCI and UNMIL have increased inter-mission cooperation arrangements, particularly following the killing of seven UNOCI peacekeepers on 8 June in the town of Para in western Côte d'Ivoire and the ongoing attacks on the Ivorian side of the border resulting in the killing of Ivorian citizens and security personnel.

In Afghanistan, following the Security Council-requested comprehensive review in 2011, UNAMA reviewed its activities and posture to optimize resources and focus on priority core mandate areas in an increasingly supporting role to Afghan counterparts. The Mission is also actively preparing the post-2014 phase, particularly in terms of supporting a peaceful political transition, including its support to the Afghan authorities in the planning and organizing of the presidential elections in 2014 by Afghan electoral authorities in 2014 and Afghan-led and Afghan-owned reconciliation process, as well as furthering coherent international support in line with Afghan priorities.

In Haiti, some progress has been made towards strengthening the country's democratic and rule of law institutions, as well as in the overall maintenance of security throughout the country, again allowing us to consider a careful and responsible hand-over of responsibility for security from military to formed police units and ultimately to the Haitian National Police. This should translate into a phased withdrawal of approximately 1,000 infantry and engineering personnel from the Mission. The political and economic situation in the country nevertheless remains precarious, and the building of the capacity of the Haitian National Police will take some time.

Finally, in Timor-Leste, following the peaceful and orderly conduct of two rounds of presidential elections and the parliamentary elections in March, April and July 2012, and the inauguration of the new Fifth Constitutional Government of Timor-Leste on 8 August, UNMIT has started a phased drawdown which is expected to lead to the closure of the Mission on 31 December 2012. This is the outcome that we wish for all our Missions, and I wish to pay tribute here to those who have served in Timor (including Ms. Haq), and of course the Timorese themselves, for this formidable achievement.

Looking ahead, we must be prepared for potential future roles for UN peacekeeping whether in Mali, Syria, Somalia, or elsewhere. In Somalia, the United Nations is undertaking a comprehensive Strategic Review of its strategy and presence following the successful end of the transition period in September, in close coordination with the AU Commission and the new Somali authorities. In the meantime, the United Nations continues to support AMISOM through the delivery of a logistical support package and the provision of technical advice to the AU Commission. DPKO, jointly with DFS, will support the AU Commission in assessing AMISOM operations after its successful expanded operations against Al-Shabaab during the course of 2012. DPKO will also continue its role as the UN focal point for counter-piracy efforts off the coast of Somalia.

While we cannot predict when or where our next operation may be mandated or in what configurations, our responsibility is to be proactive in planning for a range of contingencies so we may engage rapidly and effectively if called to action by the Security Council. In this, we will continue, with the support of this Committee, to further our partnership with regional organisations. The African Union, in particular, is a vital strategic partner to UN peacekeeping and I am committed to continue to enhance our strategic and operational cooperation, including by remaining innovative and making the optimal use of our resources, building on experiences we had in Somalia and Sudan.

Un contexte stratégique en pleine évolution

Lors des discussions portant sur la planification de potentielles missions de la paix, nous avons examiné l'ensemble des modèles de maintien de la paix existants. Ces dernières années, une attention toute particulière a été consacrée aux missions multidimensionnelles mandatées par le Chapitre VII relatives à la protection des civils, et ceci à juste titre. Mais au delà même de ces dernières, la variété des modèles de missions qui ont été déployées est saisissante. Remettons les choses en perspective : depuis 1948, il y a eu 67 opérations sur les cinq continents, et 16 sont toujours déployées. Jusqu'à présent, ces opérations sont fondées sur trois Chapitres de la Charte – Chapitres VI, VII et VIII. En termes de maintien de la paix, nous nous sommes appuyés sur le principe qu'un seul modèle ne peut convenir pas à toutes les missions. Au cours des années, les Nations Unies ont reconnu le caractère dynamique du contexte stratégique du maintien de la paix et se sont ainsi adaptées à son évolution. Nous avons revu la conception, la configuration et la taille des opérations avec flexibilité. J'ai l'intention de maintenir et de renforcer, le cas échéant, cette précieuse tradition.

Dans cet esprit, l'une de mes priorités concerne la mise en place d'évaluations périodiques afin de s'assurer du bon dimensionnement de nos missions – au moins une fois tous les deux ans. Chaque mission doit et sera examinée selon ses propres mérites. Lorsque les circonstances l'exigeront, nous ferons appel aux ressources et capacités supplémentaires, nécessaires pour mener à bien notre mission. Depuis que je me suis adressé à vous l'année dernière, nous avons entrepris l'évaluation du personnel en uniforme dans plusieurs missions. L'image collective qui nous a été dévoilée est une réduction modeste du personnel en uniforme à l'échelle mondiale. A la demande de l'Assemblée Générale, nous sommes également en train d'évaluer le personnel civil. Ces évaluations périodiques constituent une opportunité de s'assurer non seulement que le personnel déployé est en nombre nécessaire mais également que nous déployons du personnel avec les compétences et les capacités correspondent aux évolutions des mandats ainsi qu'aux besoins changeants du terrain.

Le maintien de la paix des Nations Unies demeure un arrangement financièrement efficace et unique pour le partage des charges et de l'action collective. Il reste également très tributaire de partenariat mondial. La Quatrième Commission et le Comité Spécial des Opérations de Maintien de la Paix, le C34, ont un rôle critique à jouer dans le renforcement et l'amélioration du maintien de la paix. Nous accueillons chaleureusement au Secrétariat l'achèvement et l'adoption cette année du rapport du C34. Mme. Haq et moi-même nous tenons à votre disposition pour travailler ensemble

au cours de l'année à venir, pour soutenir vos délibérations et les appuyer où vous le jugez nécessaire.

De la même manière, l'achèvement du travail du Groupe consultatif de haut niveau chargé d'examiner le taux de remboursement des frais engagés par les pays contributeurs de troupes nous a également encouragés. Le remboursement des troupes et autres questions connexes telles que le niveau de préparation opérationnelle et la génération de forces sont essentiels pour le maintien de la paix. Ils sont au coeur des partenariats en matière de maintien de la paix. La question du remboursement s'est révélée aussi complexe et difficile qu'importante. Nous espérons profondément que les délibérations du Groupe consultatif ont apporté une base nécessaire dans la recherche d'un consensus. Nous attendons avec impatience l'étude des recommandations du Groupe consultatif de haut niveau par l'Assemblée Générale et nous nous tenons prêts à soutenir leur mise en œuvre selon les directives qui auront été adoptées.

Les 116 pays qui fournissent actuellement le personnel en uniforme de nos 16 missions sont des acteurs centraux. Ces dernières années, le DOMP et le DAM ont travaillé au renforcement de notre engagement à l'égard de vos capitales. Des cadres supérieurs du DOMP et du DAM ainsi que moi-même avons intensifié le nombre de nos visites dans vos capitales. Nous avons cherché à étendre la base de nos contributeurs en participant à des conférences régionales en compagnie de contributeurs potentiels. Un peu plus tôt ce mois-ci à Berlin, la Secrétaire générale adjointe, Mme Haq, ainsi que des collègues de la Division de la Police ont informé quelques 200 cadres de la police en provenance de plus de 70 Etats membres à propos des tâches dont la police a la charge ainsi que sur les besoins en personnel.

Ici, à New York, nous avons informé les pays contributeurs en soldats et policiers au sujet des missions d'évaluation technique et du renouvellement des mandats dans le cadre d'une coopération triangulaire. Je crois que nous sommes sur la bonne voie et nous restons, bien sûr, ouverts aux suggestions pour renforcer encore davantage notre engagement envers vous.

Je tiens à cette occasion à remercier ces pays pour leur contribution en personnel déployé auprès des Nations Unies, au service de la paix et de la sécurité. Au cours de mes visites dans 11 missions, l'année dernière, j'ai pu observer par moi-même le courage, le dévouement et les sacrifices de ces hommes et de ces femmes. Et, avec beaucoup de respect et une profonde tristesse, je tiens à honorer le service des 73 hommes et femmes qui ont fait cette année le sacrifice de leur vie alors qu'ils étaient au service de la paix.

Policy and Reform Priorities

I would now like to turn to our policy and reform priorities. As you know, we continue work on the New Horizon reform agenda which we set in 2009. Today, however, I would like to call your attention five issues which I see as priorities for the year ahead.

Military and police capacities

First, with respect to **military and police capacities**, we are working to place effectiveness at the heart of our operations through a “capability-driven” approach. I see the introduction of an overarching quality assurance framework, supported by guidance and training, as a means to improve performance, while also enhancing safety and security. Under this broad performance framework, we have specific initiatives to ensure a practical and field-oriented approach.

On standards, we have developed three sets of initial standards on medical, staff officer training and infantry battalions. We are now working to pilot, with a specific troop-contributing country, the application of the Infantry Battalion Manual, from pre-deployment through to deployment and rotation.

We are developing a strategic guidance framework for policing to ensure more consistent and standardized approaches to the provision of public safety, police reform and support to host-State police and other law enforcement agencies.

We are working closely with Member States to bolster mechanisms for operational readiness assurance with a focus on the evaluation of deployed uniformed personnel. In addition, I hope that the General Assembly will support my proposal to put in place an Inspector-General type function to support the Secretariat and Member States through assessment of and reporting on the efficiency, effectiveness and utilization of field missions’ military components and formed police units.

In the area of training, we are developing mission-specific training and scenario-based exercises designed for use by Member States prior to deployment as well as for in-mission use. These materials are adequate to train decision makers and staff both for units and individually deployed personnel. A package of new mission-specific training materials for UN Infantry Battalions on MONUSCO, UNAMID and UNMISS has been recently approved and disseminated. We have already made a significant step forward with the issuance of revised guidance on pre-deployment testing and assessment of UN police which was developed in close consultation with the Member States. We have provided training for 158 Member States to improve the operational readiness of Formed Police Units. Finally, with regard to training, we have successfully introduced a week long intensive orientation course here in New York for appointed, designated Heads of Military Components and the feedback has been very positive.

We are looking at introducing new technologies such as unarmed Unmanned Aerial Systems to our missions in the DRC and Côte d’Ivoire to support the implementation of their mandates, enhance force protection and staff security and to reduce their dependency on helicopters. I am aware of the sensitivities surrounding the use of such technology and would like to assure you that the use of this technology would be with the agreement of the host countries and in full transparency with all countries concerned.

The timely recruitment of appropriately skilled police personnel remains a challenge, particularly as development of host-state security institutions has become a vital component of several mission mandates. Missions therefore need the capacity to not only mentor and advise, but also to provide specialised support for the work of host-

state police services in all areas of their work. As you know, we have moved forward with standardised job descriptions, systematic mapping of skills gaps in missions and the establishment of a police human resource database. Attracting police expertise with the required language skills also remains a challenge. We already have a fruitful cooperation with the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie*, but need additional support from Member States. Finally, the global effort to increase female officers has led to an increase from 7.8 per cent to almost 10 per cent in October 2012.

In addition to this broad performance agenda, our peacekeepers continue to require the critical force multipliers and enabling capacities which provide missions with the necessary mobility and rapid reaction capacity. With the support of the C34, joint efforts by our two departments have helped to improve the incentives for contributor countries. I am pleased to announce that over the course of the past year we have reduced the gap in helicopters by half. At the same time, our efforts continue to ensure the serviceability of equipment and identify sources of additional aviation assets, engineering contingents, medical specialists, and transnational organized crime and other specialized police teams. We remain committed to improving the gap list process and to link it more clearly to a systemic response and the force generation process.

We have also expanded our resort to inter-mission cooperation, both as a short term and a long term arrangement. As a long term, standing arrangement, it allows us to craft regional approaches to regional issues, such as the LRA. It also allows us to optimize the use of scarce military assets – such as the shared tactical aviation unit between UNOCI and UNMIL. As a short term arrangement, it allows us temporarily to alleviate, in times of crisis, the impact of critical gaps – such as the military helicopters gap in UNMISS. It also allows us to provide rapid surge capacity to missions either in times of crisis, as was the case with UNOCI, or at startup as was the case with UNISFA and UNSMIS. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to troop-contributing countries that consented to the quick redeployment of their personnel or assets. They have helped protect and save many civilian lives.

I would like to emphasize that we should not seek to solve long term problems with short term measures. When used as a short term, stop-gap measure, however, intermission cooperation can provide a timely response for critically needed capacities. I look forward to working with you toward further strengthening intermission cooperation.

Civilian capacities

Let me now shift to the **second** priority area of civilian capabilities and, in particular, rule of law and security institutions. Strengthening the performance and structures of police, justice and corrections institutions, conducting Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), and supporting national security sector reform efforts are ongoing priorities as these areas are vital to consolidating peace. Mine action has long been recognized as a long-standing peace and confidence-builder in post-conflict, peacekeeping settings. The protection of civilians as well as of UN personnel and assets increasingly rely on effective responses to the threat of new types of explosives weapons (IEDs). This will be reflected in the new strategy for the United

Nations in mine action to be launched in 2013. All these are areas where we need specialized and deployable capacities to ensure we tailor our efforts to the unique demands of each country.

We have an important year ahead. As I mentioned, this is an area of growing demand. DPKO's rule of law and security institutions team is working to roll out new ways to monitor progress in these difficult areas through use of some indicators developed in partnership with peacekeeping, human rights and development partners. Furthermore, for the first time, a set of system-wide strategic guidance notes on security sector reform has been developed by the Inter-Agency SSR Taskforce. I urge Member States to continue to provide support for the important work of the Inter-Agency SSR Task force.

DPKO and UNDP will consolidate their expertise in police, justice and corrections and co-locate some existing capacities as part of the Joint Global Focal Point (GFP) arrangement for Police, Justice and Corrections areas in the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations. This innovative arrangement aims to help improve coherence across the UN system and serve as an entry point for missions and Member States seeking advice, specialist support and guidance. The success of this effort will depend in part on the availability of adequate resources. I urge Member States to support us in this effort as the current proposal does not anticipate any actual increase in staff or resources dedicated to these vital areas.

Critical mandated roles: peacebuilding and protection of civilians

The **third area** relates to the continued work toward improved guidance and training on critical aspects of peacekeeping. Over the past years, we have made important progress on clarifying the role of peacekeepers in peacebuilding. The DPKO/DFS early peacebuilding strategy is a tool to guide mission prioritization and to ensure a focus on advancing security or laying the foundation for institutional strengthening. OROLSI and DPET, with their combined expertise in Mine Action, DDR, SSR, justice, corrections, police, civil affairs, gender, and child protection, must work closely with political affairs and military peacekeepers to maximize their potential contributions to early peacebuilding efforts.

On the protection of civilians, we can now build on a solid base of guidance and training and focus on application and training. Regional courses have been conducted so far in Latin America and Asia to prepare Member States military, police and civilian trainers. Four of the eight missions with protection of civilians mandates have developed protections strategies and two of them (UNOCI and UNMISS) have undergone POC training to support its implementation. Additional mobile training teams will be deployed in the year ahead. Two additional missions (UNMIL and UNIFIL) plan to develop strategies in the coming months.

Our POC training efforts also incorporate a module on conflict related sexual violence and linkages to child protection training. In addition, outreach and training in these specialized areas advances as well. In the area of police training, for example, 146 police officers from 80 countries have been trained and certified on the UN Police Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Curriculum and 25 Member States have utilized the UN curriculum creating a pool of 6,064 SGBV investigators.

Recognising the primary responsibility of the host-countries to protect civilians, we are working to develop the capacity of host-state security institutions, particularly police, to sensitise them to their responsibilities to protect, and to strengthen accountability and oversight through justice and security sector reform. We also coordinate closely with capacity-building efforts by bilateral and development partners. We also understand that the best protection is prevention and are focusing on establishing effective early warning mechanisms in our missions.

Strengthened field support arrangements

The **fourth** area is the Global Field Support Strategy through which DFS is putting in place more effective and efficient arrangements with the ability to respond flexibly and rapidly to evolving needs. Ms. Haq will speak to these issues in greater detail.

Holding UN personnel to the highest standards

The **fifth** area I would like to highlight relates to the conduct of our UN personnel. Both Ms. Haq and I remain personally committed to upholding the highest standards of conduct for all our UN peacekeeping personnel. As we are all aware, just one incident of misconduct can overshadow the otherwise exemplary behaviour of all peacekeepers and dent public confidence in peacekeeping. I am pleased to say that the collective efforts of the UN and contributor countries are making a difference. Misconduct allegations in missions continue to decline, in particular those involving sexual exploitation and abuse. We, together with PCCs and TCCs, need to continue our efforts and ensure full attention to all categories of personnel and to respond to any allegations swiftly and decisively. I also look to our contributors to ensure that the personnel they contribute meet the highest standards of efficiency, competence, and integrity, including in terms of human rights and criminal records.

Monsieur le Président, distingués délégués,

Le maintien de la paix demeure un élément fondamental au sein de l'architecture plus vaste de la paix et la sécurité internationales. Il s'agit d'un outil polyvalent et financièrement efficace. Les ressources déployées par la communauté internationale pour le maintien de la paix des Nations Unies ne constituent qu'une petite partie des dépenses globales en matière de défense. En dépit du coût relativement faible du maintien de la paix de l'ONU, un organisme sérieux de recherche lui attribue un rôle significatif dans le déclin des pertes dues aux guerres civiles. L'investissement dans le maintien de la paix a également prévenu et atténué la souffrance d'un nombre incalculable de personnes. La stabilité relative que permet le maintien de la paix contribue aussi à restaurer un certain niveau de confiance auprès des investisseurs locaux et internationaux dans les zones de post-conflit, favorisant l'augmentation de l'activité économique et du PIB de ces mêmes pays. En d'autres termes: le maintien de la paix fonctionne.

Le maintien de la paix semble être toujours un élément capital, puisqu'il est fréquemment au centre de la réponse de la communauté internationale en cas de conflit. Sans doute, parce ce qu'il s'est avéré être un vecteur polyvalent et essentiel de l'action politique comme opérationnelle. Tout en menant des évaluations périodiques

et en redimensionnant correctement nos missions afin d'optimiser l'utilisation du personnel et des ressources que l'on nous a confiés, nous allons travailler à l'élaboration d'autres concepts et options afin de répondre aux défis à venir. Pour réussir, nous aurons besoin de la bonne approche stratégique pour faire face à l'évolution des besoins des pays concernés. Pour réussir, nous aurons besoin de votre collaboration, de vos conseils et de votre soutien. Je suis impatient de travailler avec vous tout au long de l'année à venir.