STATEMENT

BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

MR. ARMAN SARGSYAN

Dear Chairman, Dear Colleagues,

At the outset, allow me to express my gratitude to the United Nations, the Government of Ghana and other co-hosts for organizing this ministerial meeting and for their valuable efforts aimed at its successful outcome.

United Nations peace operations are essential instruments for promoting and maintaining international peace and security. This ministerial meeting presents a significant opportunity to participate in a discussion focused on strengthening peacekeeping operations in line with the ongoing reform outlined in the Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping initiatives and the A4P+ implementation strategy for 2021-2023 which are aimed at emphasizing key priorities to enhance the impact of peacekeeping missions.

At the same time, I am pleased to introduce the progress that Armenia has made in developing uniformed personnel for UN peacekeeping, and confirm Armenia's commitment to contribute to the international efforts supporting peace and security in the world.

In addition to our on-going contributions to UNIFIL mission in Lebanon and substantial contribution to the NATO-led peacekeeping operations, Armenia is developing two specialized capabilities: A Field Hospital and EOD Engineering unit, along with an Infantry Battalion to contribute to the UN peacekeeping missions, wherever needed, with no caveats. Our pledges have been registered in the Peacekeeping Capabilities Readiness System, and we are waiting for UN professional evaluation and advice to elevate those units to the PCRS Level 3 or RDL ensuring their prompt deployability.

Meanwhile, with the support of our partners, we are developing a national peacekeeping training capability to ensure that our troops are sufficiently trained before

their deployment on the ground. The ultimate aim is to obtain certification for this training capability as an international peacekeeping training center, offering UN-certified courses and making it available for the training of peacekeepers from other nations.

Dear Chairman, Dear Colleagues,

Finally, I reiterate, Armenia's commitment to contribute to the UN peacekeeping operations and our readiness to work diligently and expand our participation in UN peacekeeping missions with well-trained and equipped troops to the extent Armenia's capabilities allow.

Thank you for your attention.