

Transcript: German Statement at the
virtual 2021 Seoul United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial

As delivered by Parliamentary State Secretary Thomas Silberhorn, Federal Ministry of Defence

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you very much to the organizers and for the opportunity to present our pledges today.

Germany is the fourth-largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping budget. Our soldiers and police officers currently serve in seven UN peace operations.

We remain committed to enhancing the performance and effectiveness of UN peacekeeping operations. Therefore, we would like to announce a wide range of pledges today:

Germany provides the Medium Utility Helicopter Unit for MINUSMA in Gao until June 2024. This support is a critical capability and will particularly help to increase the mission's casualty evacuation capacities.

Moreover, we will support projects on medical capacity building and technologies, the cross-cutting issues of this conference. For instance, we are funding the development of a Mental Health Strategy for Uniformed Personnel together with Israel and contribute 3,000 Buddy First Aid Kits to African MINUSMA troop contributing countries. Together with the Netherlands, we are also funding the Big Data Radio Mining and Analysis Mainstreaming Project.

As an Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) Champion for Women, Peace and Security, we support the pilot of a Uniformed Women Peacekeepers Network as well as UN projects on women in defence and security sectors.

Germany is also an A4P Champion on Training and Capacity Building. We propose extensive training offers for UN troop and police contributing countries:

- International participants may take part in the Integrated Tactical Protection of Civilians course as well as in the UN Military Observer Course with a particular focus on women in peace operations.

- Moreover, Germany offers an annual dispatch of up to six Mobile Training Teams for military pre-deployment training upon UN request and an annual Online Training of Trainers for personnel in mission headquarters, in addition to regular In-Mission-Training to take place in ongoing peacekeeping operations.
- For police contributing countries and missions, Germany offers up to four Mobile Training Teams per year for either generic pre-deployment training or more specific trainings on police-related topics.

We are convinced that with today's contributions and our joint effort, we will further strengthen UN Peacekeeping and missions alike. We would like to applaud Korea's efforts, in particular for its initiative on medical capacity building and training.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it was a special honor for me, to deliver my last speech as outgoing state secretary of the German Ministry of Defence on my last day in office to the United Nations on UN peacekeeping.

Thank you very much!