

**Statement by Ambassador Bettina Cadenbach,
NATO Assistant Secretary General for Political
Affairs and Security Policy, at the 2021 UN
Peacekeeping Ministerial**

Chairperson, National Representatives, Ladies
and Gentlemen,

First, I'd like to thank the Republic of Korea, for hosting this meeting. As a nation active in international cooperation, peace and security, notably through its long-standing contributions to UN Peacekeeping, the Republic of Korea is uniquely positioned to host a conference on such a vital topic for peace and security.

In 2015, building on NATO's previous support for the UN, for instance in supporting AMISOM or escorting World Food Programme vessels, NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg pledged to enhance support to UN peacekeeping.

As indicated during his meeting with your Secretary General in the margins of the UNGA last September in New York, we have truly advanced on implementing this pledge.

Indeed, the cooperation between NATO and the United Nations has increased significantly in recent years, guided by our 2018 Joint NATO-UN Declaration. It has enabled unprecedented

staff-to-staff exchanges on a range of technical matters in support of peacekeeping.

To enhance the operational performance, safety and security of UN peacekeepers, the Alliance has strongly supported the implementation of the United Nations Secretary General's "*Action for Peacekeeping*" initiative. We look forward to supporting the implementation of its next phase, "*Action for Peacekeeping Plus*".

Also, in response to a UN request, NATO will support the delivery of UN peacekeeping training by providing expertise in medical care, countering improvised explosive devices, military performance evaluation processes, and signals and communications. We will do so through a capacity building package.

This is NATO's first ever capacity-building initiative prepared for an international organization partner.

It will contribute to the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2436 on *Enhancing the performance of peacekeeping personnel*.

In parallel, NATO continues to provide broad support to the UN in mitigating the threats from Improvised Explosive Devices. Through our Centre of Excellence in particular we help

ensure that any training provided by NATO Allies and Partners is in line with UN standards.

At the NATO Summit in June, NATO leaders endorsed a new policy on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual violence, demonstrating clear commitment to this important topic.

NATO is grateful for the UN's support to prepare this policy on a critical issue for both our organizations.

NATO's current Action Plan for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 - and related resolutions - has been endorsed by all 30 NATO Allies as well as by 25 other nations.

Bringing together one of the largest political coalitions to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Let me reaffirm NATO's determination to do more with, and more for our partners, in particular the United Nations.

Cooperation on capacity building is central to how NATO helps address crises, by supporting our partners to better cope with security challenges themselves.

NATO remains committed to continue delivering on its pledge to support UN peacekeeping

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this meeting on behalf of NATO.