

**HONOURABLE MINISTER OF DEFENCE'S SPEECH FOR MINISTERIAL BRIEFING 2025  
AT BERLIN GERMANY**

1. Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates, esteemed colleagues, ladies and gentlemen. I am highly honoured to stand before you, agents of change and strategic thinkers, as we seek for international peace and security. Please permit me to convey my Country's deepest appreciation to the Government of Germany for hosting this year's Peacekeeping Ministerial Meeting. To the Under Secretary General of the Department of Peace Operations and other Under Secretary Generals, I commend you for the thought-provoking theme for this year's meeting. For over 6 decades, the Federal Republic of Nigeria has been at the forefront of peacekeeping efforts, driven by a deep sense of conviction that global peace is not only a shared responsibility.

2. In this regard, Nigeria remains firm and resolute behind the UN and the global community in efforts towards fostering global peace and security. Nigeria has a longstanding and significant role in UN peacekeeping operations and has sustained participation in peacekeeping operations via contributions of troops, police, individual uniformed personnel and subject matter experts among others. At this juncture, I want to specifically inform you that, in keeping to our pledge from the last peacekeeping ministerial meeting, the Federal Republic of Nigeria has continued to rotate troops and police deployed to the United Nations Interim Security Force in Abyei and the United Nations endorsed African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia. It is worth noting that not only did a Nigerian sit as the chair of the committee working to develop the UN military artillery manual, we have also pledged to host one of the committee's workshops later on this year.

3. In pursuance of the UN Resolution 1325, which advocated for the active involvement of women in peacekeeping operations, Nigeria has continued to sustain over 20% participation of women in peacekeeping. This gender parity drive amplifies Nigeria's commitment to equality and Action for Peacekeeping Plus (A4P+) agenda. All these efforts continue to underscore Nigeria's commitment to ensuring the UN is better poised for the maintenance of international peace and security.

4. Nigeria has also played leading pre-emptive roles in sub-regional peace efforts under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States and the African Union, notably in Sierra Leone and Liberia, and more recently in The Gambia and Guinea Bissau. Notwithstanding these noble efforts at promoting international peace and security, we are not oblivious that the constant changing and difficult environment under which peacekeepers operate would require more sophisticated technological equipment. Therefore, in line with the New Agenda for Peace (NAP), the UN should continue to provide support to the African Union and sub-regional peace support operations. Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it would be seen that while a lot has been done, much more is still required especially in the face of the recent capability and technological gaps in peacekeeping operations.

5. In light of the foregoing, Nigeria is more desirous now than ever to contribute significantly to international peace and security through partnership and collaboration to achieve a collective vision of a world where peace is not a rare achievement but a shared reality. To this end, the Federal Republic of Nigeria pledges the following:

- a. One Infantry Battalion (Deployable in 6 months).
- b. Two Infantry Companies.
- c. One Quick Reaction Force Company.
- d. One Level 2 Field Hospital (Deployable in 6 months).
- e. One Airfield Unit.
- f. One Command and Control/Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Unit.
- g. Gratis Training slots at Martin Luther Agwai International Leadership and Peacekeeping Training Centre of Excellence.
- h. Subject Matter Experts in Mission in areas such as intelligence, Base Defence and Force protection, as well as Investigation, Conduct and Discipline.

6. Distinguished and respected colleagues, as we deliberate on ways to enhance the peace activities for the future, it is also vital to remember Nigeria emphasizes the urgent need to address crises proactively, ensuring that they are resolved before they escalate into full-blown conflicts. God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Thank you all.