

**Statement by Ambassador Dr. Maleeha Lodhi,
Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the
United Nations, at the 2019 UN Peacekeeping
Ministerial Meeting on Uniformed Capabilities,
Performance and Protection**

29 March 2019

Mr. Chairman,

Blue Helmets, are acknowledged and respected around the world as they symbolize the United Nations' commitment to international peace, security and stability. Peacekeeping has proven to be the United Nations' most successful enterprise.

Pakistan is a proud contributor to this success, having provided more than 200,000 troops to this endeavour. Our valiant and professional peacekeepers have served in 46 missions since 1960. 156 of our peacekeepers have made the ultimate sacrifice.

As a major TCC, we welcome the focus on performance.

Let me make six specific points in that context:

One, a data based system needs to be put in place to assess performance that takes a whole of mission approach. To ensure that everyone is assessed on a level playing field, caveats must be discarded Performance of peacekeeping missions is a derivative of clarity, sequencing and resourcing of mandates.

Two, triangular cooperation is necessary to ensure that the TCCs' on-ground experience is factored into mandates and decisions on resource allocation.

Three, there is a need to put in place fair, realistic and permanent mechanisms for review of troop cost and COE reimbursements, and to ensure timely reimbursements to TCCs. Delayed payments is a stop-gap arrangement, hardly a solution.

Four, peacekeepers can only provide a window to resolve the underlying issues that drive conflicts. It is imperative that expectations are realistic when it comes to our goals from a peacekeeping mission. Thus

primacy of political solutions assumes a critical role.

Five, principles of peacekeeping are not an impediment to Protection of Civilians mandates. These principles protect the UN's credibility by ensuring that peacekeepers do not become a party to the conflict.

Six, recent years have proven to be some of the worst in terms of deadly attacks on peacekeepers. Despite improvements in 2018,

more progress and information sharing is needed in this area.

Mr. Chairman,

In keeping with our commitment as the first country to endorse the A4P Declaration of Shared commitments, Pakistan is proud to have achieved the goal of deploying 15% female staff officers in UN Missions. Pakistan is also deploying a female engagement team to the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) in May 2019.

Also, fully appreciating the need for critical enablers, Pakistan is in the process of deploying a helicopter Unit in Mali, (MINUSMA). In addition, a level 2 hospital and an Infantry Battalion have made it to the Rapid Deployment Level (RDL).

Pakistan's fresh pledges, that have already been registered on PCRS include, an Infantry Battalion, a Quick Reaction Force Company, a Force Protection Company, an Engineering Company and a Signals Company.

In addition, our pledges for the UN's Training Regime are:

- Provision of training teams to other TCCs, the UN Training Centre in Entebbe (Uganda) and other international peacekeeping training institutes.
- Training other TCCs at the UN Military Observer Course (UNMOC), the UN Staff Officer Course (UNSOC) and the UN Protection of Civilians Course (UNPOC) at the Center for International Peace and

Stability (CIPS) Islamabad on a gratis basis.

- Hosting of Counter IED Courses for International participants at our Counter IED & Munitions School (CIMS) on a gratis basis, and
- Organization of International Female Military Observers Course (FMOC) at CIPS on a gratis basis.

I thank you.