I would like to first express my sincere appreciation to Ghana for hosting the Peacekeeping Ministerial Meeting this year.

I also offer special tribute to the Blue Helmets, whose tireless efforts ensure stability in the world’s most troubled regions.

UN peacekeeping represents one of the most significant political innovations in our pursuit of international peace and security.

Yet, as missions confront increasingly challenging environments, they must remain fit for purpose to address these complexities.

In this context, Korea strongly supports the Secretary-General’s initiatives to strengthen UN peace operations, including the New Agenda for Peace.
Today, I wish to make five points.

First, deploying better trained and equipped peacekeepers is critical to meet given mandates.

Korea will continue to partner with the UN to provide engineering equipment and training to Cambodia.

Next year, we will expand this triangular partnership to include other ASEAN TCCs in counter-IED and medical training initiatives.

Korea will also deliver the 16 helicopters pledged in 2021.

Second, we should explore harnessing new technologies to improve mission effectiveness.
Korea will continue supporting the DOS-led UN Smart Camp initiative, which employs smart technologies to protect peacekeepers while minimizing their environmental footprint.

Our mission in South Sudan is developing a smart camp prototype, the development of which we hope to share with the UN community.

Third, addressing tensions between missions, host governments and local communities is paramount.

To this end, Korea pledges to support UN strategic communication efforts to combat mis- and disinformation, including the development of a cross-platform to monitor and analyze such threats.
Korea believes that increasing CIMIC activities will help deepen local community engagement.

Experience from Korean peacekeepers shows that such interactions enhance their security and support mandate delivery.

Fourth, Korea’s dedication to increasing women’s participation in peace operations remains unwavering.

We will host training courses for female military officers and contribute an additional $500,000 to the Elsie Initiative.

We also pledge to organize a cross-mission learning session at the Conference on Action with Women and Peace to be held in Korea next year.
Finally, as Korea prepares to join the Security Council next year, we commit to working with all partners to reach sustaining peace.

In this regard, we pledge 3 million dollars to DPO and DOS, 3.5 million dollars to the DPPA multi-year appeal, and 8 million dollars to the Peacebuilding Fund.

I thank you.