

### **Closing remarks from MND**

Hello. I'm Suh Wook, Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Korea.

I am very much glad we were able to successfully conclude this UN Peacekeeping Ministerial even under the difficult circumstance of COVID-19, due to active participation and support of all national delegations.

I express my sincere gratitude to all delegations for relaying their contribution pledges and messages of support so that the Ministerial may achieve meaningful progress.

Even though we were unable to meet in person, it was a meaningful occasion as I had the opportunity to hear the esteemed views of national representatives through the VTC.

Above all else, we were able to reaffirm that international peacekeeping operations must be sustained and that the spirit of solidarity and cooperation among member states are absolutely necessary.

In session discussions, delegations shared the view that it is important to sustain peace / promote cooperation among member states / strengthen peacekeeping capabilities / and ensure the safety of all in the process of peacekeeping operations.

The contribution pledges proposed by each delegation will form the foundation to upgrade the pre-existing peacekeeping operations to a new level.

Furthermore, they will be a great strength to peacekeepers, who are devoting themselves in all corners of the world even at this moment.

I am grateful that so many declared their will to provide substantial support so that the peacekeepers may successfully focus on the mission in a safer environment.

I look forward to the contribution pledges being implemented smoothly on the scenes of peacekeeping.

Representatives,

The Republic of Korea proactively supports the 2018 A4P, this year's A4P-Plus and the Strategy for the Digital Transformation of UN Peacekeeping, which contain the UN's will towards PKO, and will lead the way in its implementation.

The Seoul Initiative proposed this year to enhance UN Missions' Technical and Medical Capabilities is also a part of leading efforts, reflecting the coexistence and reciprocal spirit among members.

Going forward, the Republic of Korea will construct close partnership with the UN and member states, and continue to propose exemplary contribution cases, including helicopter transfers and enhancement of women and police in peacekeeping capabilities.

Under Secretary–Generals and Representatives,

The journey towards establishment of permanent peace continues here on the Korean Peninsula, where the world's aspiration and efforts towards world peace were assembled 70 years ago.

As a consensus was formed towards the noble objective of UN peacekeeping operations through this conference, I look forward to the establishment of permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula, and leading to overcoming of conflicts and peacekeeping in all corners of the world.

The Republic of Korea will walk together with the peacekeepers on this sacred journey of peace.

Thank you very much for your efforts, and I look forward to seeing you again at the next Ministerial.

Thank you.