

**Statement by State Secretary Jan-Olof Lind at the Seoul UN
Peacekeeping Ministerial on December 8 2021**

Mr Secretary-General, ladies and gentlemen,

Let me start by expressing a warm thank you to the Republic of Korea for arranging this important meeting and for launching the Seoul initiative on Technology and Medical capacity building in peacekeeping.

Let me highlight three important reflections.

First

There will be a continuous need for UN peace operations in the years to come. The operations will need to be designed to meet the needs on the ground as well as complex operational environments, in terms of various threats to peacekeepers, and multiple actors with correlating mandates. There are also new drivers of conflict such as climate change and organized crime that need to be integrated into analysis and mission planning. As for climate change the UN Climate Security Mechanism was initiated by Sweden in 2018 to support UN peace operations with expertise and

tools for analysis on the ground.

For peace operations to be efficient they must be agile, flexible and provided with sufficient funding and capacity.

Sweden remains a steadfast partner to the UN, both in terms of boots on the ground and through capacity building efforts, as well as leadership training.

In 2022 we intend to continue our substantive military contribution to MINUSMA in Mali as well as our staff and observer contributions to several other UN missions. Sweden will also organize the Senior Mission Leaders course together with Indonesia.

Second

Sweden applies a feminist approach to security, in line with our Feminist Foreign Policy. This includes pushing for a transformative implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. It is essential that a gender analysis is utilized and that the perspectives of women and girls are highlighted and mainstreamed in all efforts to build peace around the world. This entails training of troops and systematic support to women's protection as well as their full, equal and meaningful participation *and* influence in

decision making and peace processes.

Sweden is a proud Champion for Women Peace and Security within the Action for Peacekeeping framework. We translate this into an ambitious training curriculum for our troops, promotion of systematic and meaningful inclusion of local women peacebuilders and human rights defenders.

Third,

Alluding to another Action for Peacekeeping pillar, let me stress the importance of strengthening the link between peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

Sweden is one of the biggest net donors to the UN peacebuilding fund (PBF) which has made transitions one of its main priorities.

As future UN peace operations may move away from big multidimensional peace operations to smaller, political missions, we see that there will be a need for more specific and civilian expertise, for example within law enforcement and capacity building.

Sweden will adjust to this new reality by continuing to support the UN with policing and corrections expertise. In 2022 Sweden will

provide extra-budgetary funding to develop and institutionalize the Specialized Police Teams-concept. We will also increase funding in order to advance planning for policing in Special Political Missions and non-mission settings.

Finally

Sweden very much welcomes and supports the implementation of Our Common Agenda and the New Agenda for Peace. This agenda outlines bold perspectives on how to meet the challenges of our time. It is our common task to make it a reality. We all have a responsibility to do our utmost to work for a more peaceful, secure and stable world, with the UN at its core. Sweden will remain steadfast in our support to UN Peacekeeping both bilaterally and together with others.

Thank you.