

UN

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Department of
Peace Operations

**Current and Emerging Uniformed Capability Requirements
for United Nations Peacekeeping**

Sep 2021

Executive Summary

This Current and Emerging Uniformed Capability Requirements Paper is focused on the types of pledges of uniformed and related capabilities Member States are asked to consider in association with the upcoming Peacekeeping Ministerial, to be held on 7 and 8 December 2021 in Seoul, Korea.



As we approach the 2021 Seoul UN Peacekeeping Ministerial, several tools have been established to support Member States in their final preparations for the event. The Ministerial website is live and can be accessed at <https://www.unpko2021.kr/EN>. The PCRS website (<https://pcrs.un.org>) also has several documents related to the event under the Resources tab and inside the “Peacekeeping Ministerial Process” folder. This includes the comprehensive pledge guide, in line with Action for Peacekeeping+ (A4P+). Also available at the front page of PCRS website, a video has

been prepared to highlight the Uniformed Capability Requirements for UN Peacekeeping. It is an 8-minute video narrated in English with subtitles in French.

As a reminder, the objective of the 2021 Ministerial is to strengthen UN peacekeeping, including by improving the performance and impact of UN peacekeeping operations in line with A4P+; and to further this objective, close capability gaps through concrete pledges, including by facilitating new and sustainable partnerships while strengthening existing ones.

With the pledging process for the Peacekeeping Ministerial upcoming, and as part of ongoing force generation, it is relevant to reinforce the critical importance of the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (PCRS). The Secretariat’s most recent Force and Police Generation efforts have shown that using the PCRS and having sufficient units pledged at Level 2, Level 3 and Rapid Deployment Level allow a more informed and faster selection of units that are up to UN overall standards as well as a smoother generation process for our T/PCCs.

In order for this to happen, Member State support is essential. It is critical that T/PCCs use the system proactively and do not wait for the last moment to pledge their units in the system or to make known their willingness to deploy to a particular field mission. The early pledge of uniformed capabilities, even without a particular mission in mind, allows the Secretariat and the T/PCC to gain a common understanding of the capabilities’ readiness and preparedness, giving the Secretariat much better visibility over what is being offered. It also allows the T/PCC to identify possible existing shortfalls and gaps and have enough time to prepare plans to address them with a coherent and logical employment of national resources (or find support to do so).

The quarterly capability requirement papers are a good indication of what is needed now and will be needed in the near future in UN Peacekeeping Operations, allowing Member States to conduct a national analysis of their capacities and areas of expertise that are needed by the UN, resulting in relevant pledges made in the PCRS and the start of an assessment and advisory process. This will permit the Secretariat to better support field missions by delivering qualified units within an adequate timeframe, but also to help T/PCCs to properly understand UN requirements and standards and have enough time to better plan and utilize their resources when adjusting national capacities to UN requirements.

I. TRAINING

Training is a shared responsibility between the Member States and the UN Secretariat. It is the UN Secretariat's responsibility to provide policies, standards and training materials, but to allow a better understanding of these framework materials, Member States are relied upon to host the rollout of new and updated materials. PCCs are encouraged to pledge to conduct the regional rollout of the new Individual Police Officers Standard Training Material (STM) in three different events/regions: Africa; Asia and Southeast Asia/Pacific; and Latin America.



Staff Officers training at RSCE - Entebbe

There is also a requirement for pledges by national training institutions to host Trainers of Trainers rollout of new and revised training materials. In particular, there is a need of offers to host the rollouts of the peacekeeping military intelligence and UN infantry battalion STMs from one European Member State, two African Member States, one Latin American Member State, and two Asian Member States. The same distribution is required for pledges to host and financially support 50/50 male/female UN Military Observer course and 50/50 male/female UN Staff Officer course. To increase the usability of military and police training materials, we require pledges to support their translation, especially into Arabic, French and Spanish.

In late 2021 and throughout 2022, the Secretariat will develop new training material and revise existing material. To assist, T/PCCs could provide pledges of one qualified subject matter expert to support the development of training materials in the following areas: Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance; Military Engineers; Staff Officers; Military Signals; CIMIC; Force Protection; and Core Pre-deployment Training Materials.

II. CAPACITY BUILDING

The Secretariat requests that pledges related to capacity building are focused on supporting other Member States to create sustainable force generation, training, deployment, learning structures and procedures. Understanding

the recipient's needs and tailoring the support is crucial for the success of these efforts that should generate future performance and mandate delivery improvements.

The Secretariat is looking for Member States to pledge targeted capacity-building assistance (technical, financial, logistical (infrastructure) and equipment to current or potential T/PCCs that can be coordinated by the Light Coordination Mechanism (LCM). Member States looking to provide these partnerships can contact Mr. Herbert Loret (loreth@un.org).

The Secretariat also welcomes capacity building pledges that can be delivered through DOS Triangular Partnership Programme (TPP) in key peacekeeping capability areas including, but not limited to, engineering, medical, C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance), air operations, aircraft management and, airfield/runway rehabilitation. Member States interested in training options (in-situ, remote and mixed delivery) as well as partnership opportunities through the TPP can contact Mr. Takakazu Ito (itot@un.org). The Secretariat would also welcome innovative capacity building pledges that can meet established needs. On this note, the Secretariat has identified gaps in capabilities and experiences related to airfield/runway rehabilitation, as well as night vision device operations. This is not only in airfield engineers and aircrew capability and tactics, but in the development of an overall and sustainable capability that can maintain and develop proficiency.

Providing access to equipment and the ability to maintain it, supporting the professional development of cadres and creating training structures, both physical and conceptual, are some examples of meaningful and impactful capacity building projects.

III. MISSION-SPECIFIC UNIT GAPS

Member States can directly support filling outstanding requirements through mission-specific pledges in the PCRS and going through an expedited Assessment and Advisory Visit process to confirm the readiness and preparedness of the pledge against the mission specific Statement of Unit Requirements prior to a final selection and invitation for deployment.

The list of mission-specific gaps remains dynamic and will change as T/PCCs make pledges and they are accepted for deployment, or the missions revise their capability requirements. In most cases, once a requirement is received from a mission, the pledges at PCRS Levels 2 and above are the ones used to inform the selection process for deployment.

MINUSMA and MINUSCA are currently the missions where no relevant PCRS pledges are available, or pledges available did not meet the missions' requirements, or T/PCCs with pledges do not wish to deploy. Member States are recommended to contact DPO's Force Generation Service and/or Police Division for real-time updates or for more details, and then engage the PCRS manager to register the pledge. The below table provides the current gaps in both these missions that require pledges from Member States. Some of these gaps have received pledges, but the mission specific Assessment and Advisory Visit process hasn't been concluded to ascertain the readiness of these offers.



MINUSMA

2 x MUH units with AMET;
 1 x Armed Helicopter unit;
 1 x Attack Helicopter unit; and
 Forward surgical capabilities,
 such as FMT and/or LSM.

MINUSCA

1 x Bridge Engineering Coy;
 1 x Attack/Armed Helicopter
 unit; and
 5 x UAS (Class II) units.

NB: Gaps are only removed from this list when existing pledges are officially accepted by DPO

IV. GENERAL CAPABILITIES

Military units

The unstable operational scenario, difficult terrain, and poor host nation infrastructure in many of our missions require specific high-end military capabilities with quick tactical response to threats, especially in support of the protection of civilians. Technology and innovation are key on addressing these challenges.



Mobility obstacles in UNMISS

TCCs may consider pledging the following military capabilities that are needed currently in our missions or are very likely to be needed in the near future: quick reaction forces at company level; recce units at company level; medium utility helicopter units with night operations and CASEVAC/MEDEVAC capabilities; passenger, cargo and combi fixed wing; attack and/or armed helicopter units with night operations capabilities; unmanned aerial systems (UAS) with short runway operations or vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) type, surgical mobile capabilities and EOD/EIDD units at platoon or company levels. In addition, field missions require particular equipment deployed as part of the maneuvering units to support better mandate

implementation and the safety and security of troops. Chief among these requests is the need for Armed Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) with stronger blast protection/mine resistance (10kg) and High-Mobility Light Tactical Vehicles to allow troops to safely circulate in their areas of operations to deliver mandated tasks particularly protection of civilians.

Police units

The operational environment in which field missions operate requires specific police capabilities. PCCs should consider pledging well-trained and equipped Formed Police Units with embedded SWAT teams, K-9 capabilities, riverine units or teams of experts in police maritime operations which could be embedded in FPU and Police Guard units. Francophone units are in particular demand.



Nigerian FPU

Rapid Deployment

As there has been an increase in the use of military and police units at the Rapid Deployment Level (RDL) of the PCRS, the Secretariat requires special attention and support from T/PCCs with units registered at PCRS Level 2 and above to pledge their units to the RDL.



Rwandese Inf Batt at the RDL arriving in MINUSCA in Aug 21

Pledges of capacity-building support to assist T/PCCs to maintain units on the RDL would also greatly facilitate this process. Police Division is also looking for a platoon or company size quick reaction police force (QRPF) for immediate deployment under emergencies. Units at the PCRS RDL enable the Secretariat to quickly address capability gaps in existing or new missions when generation timelines are of essence.

Gender

Key to the success of our mandate implementation is the participation of women at all levels in the UN's military and police components, both as individuals as well as part of formed contingents. All T/PCCs are asked to pledge to achieve the Secretary-General's Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy targets for 2022 and deploy a minimum women representation of 19% of UNMEM and SOs; 9% of contingent troops; 23% of IPO; and 12% of FPU. One way to support this effort is to make sure that all Infantry Battalions and Companies that are deployed in missions with protection of civilians responsibilities include Engagement Platoons/Teams composed of 50 percent men and 50 percent women.



Indian FPU hand-to-hand combat training

IV. PCRS PLEDGES

With recent and on-going Force Generation efforts, the PCRS must continue to have a diverse number of pledges of different capabilities placed at the system's different levels. This is what provides options to better formulate force and police generation and deployment plans in support of existing or new missions. As highlighted in the Executive Summary, the early pledging and assessment and advisory process is critical for the success of the system.

Since several units have been used from the PCRS in the last few months, there is a need to elevate critical units and some maneuvering units from Level 1 to Level 2 in the PCRS. Special attention and support are required from T/PCCs with pledges registered at PCRS Level 2 and above to make their offers available for the Rapid Deployment Level, as units from this level have been used or are in process of being used for deployment. To achieve this capacity, the RDL must be completely filled. The existing gaps for Medium Utility and Armed Helicopter units and the Transport unit require Member States' support to be addressed. Recent planning and deployment data indicate that it is recommended to have the following minimum critical pledges made and elevated at the different levels of the PCRS.

Type of units	Ideal # of pledges at PCRS Levels 2, 3 and RDL	Current			Number of new pledges required
		# of units in PCRS Level 2	# of units in PCRS Level 3	# of units in PCRS RDL	
Infantry Battalions	20	8	2	1	9
Infantry Company/Platoon	4	1	0	0	3
Recce Company	4	0	0	0	4
Special Force Units/ groups	6	3	0	1	2
Force Protection Company	6	3	1	0	2
Quick Reaction Force (Coy)	8	3	0	0	5
Engineer Companies/ Platoons	8	3	3	1	1
Demining/EOD Units	6	1	0	0	5
Level 2 Hospitals	10	3	4	1	2
Utility Helicopter Units	10	4	0	0	6
Attack Aircraft/Helicopter Units	6	0	0	0	6
Transport Aircrafts	4	1	0	0	3
Unmanned Aerial Systems	6	2	0	0	4
MP Companies/ teams	6	1	3	1	1
Signal Companies/platoons	5	3	1	1	5
Log/Transport Companies/Units	5	1	1	0	3
Formed Police Units + SWAT (non-Francophone)	15	12	3	1	0
Formed Police Units + SWAT (Francophone)	8	2*	0	1*	8
Police Guard Units	6	0	0	0	6

* All 3 FPU with French language capacity are earmarked to deploy to MINUSCA.