The UN Security Council (2242) called for doubling the number of women in uniformed components of peace operations by 2028. Currently, only 6% of all uniformed military, police and justice and corrections personnel in field missions are women. Even though remarkable progress has been achieved since the adoption of the Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy, efforts are still needed to reach our targets for 2028 and beyond and sustain those that have been met.

As part of the Action for Peacekeeping initiative, the UN Secretariat and Member States collectively committed to increase the number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping at all levels and in key positions.
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE WOMEN IN PEACEKEEPING?

*Improved Operations and Performance:* Greater diversity means improved decision-making, planning and results, leading to greater operational effectiveness and performance.

*Better Access:* Women peacekeepers can better access the population, including women and children, thereby generating valuable information that would otherwise be difficult to reach.

*Reflecting the Communities We Serve:* Diversity in United Nations peacekeepers allows engagement with all members of the communities we are there to protect.

*Creating Role Models:* Women peacekeepers serve as powerful role models for women and girls in post-conflict settings, setting examples for them to advocate for their own rights and pursue non-traditional careers.

KEY INITIATIVES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PEACE OPERATIONS

• UN Military have recently deployed a record number of women into the most senior military roles in UN peace operations - with one Force Commander and two Deputy Force Commanders now serving in the field.
• UN Police has created a talent pipeline of 170 female police officers to help identify and support women for leadership positions. Currently one Police Commissioner serving in the field is a woman.
• Member States are now requested to nominate a minimum of 20% women for individual police officer positions and 30% for justice and corrections government-provided personnel.
• Justice and Corrections Service is supporting a series of pre-deployment trainings specifically for women corrections officers.
• Priority for deployments is being given to Formed Police Units that include women, and UN Peace operations have introduced mixed engagement teams comprising of at least 50% female peacekeepers.
• Qualified women personnel are prioritized for individual staff military positions at UNHQ and field missions, as well as justice and corrections government-provided personnel.

CALL TO ACTION FOR MEMBER STATES

Achieving Gender Parity depends on the continued collective efforts of the United Nations and Member States. In line with the Action for Peacekeeping Declaration of Shared Commitments calling for uniformed women’s participation in peacekeeping, progress can be supported by Member States to ensure that:

• Information on deployment opportunities reaches decision-makers and women officers in national services.
• More women are recruited and trained in national services to help national services perform better at home and to be available to deploy to peace operations.
• All nominations and deployments to UN peace operations meet or exceed the uniformed gender parity targets.