The Department of Peace Operations’ Commitments to Accelerating the WPS Agenda

in the Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action Compact

As a signatory to and board member of the Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action Compact, the Department of Peace Operations (DPO) will be at the forefront to turn Women, Peace and Security (WPS) commitments into reality over the next five years and beyond.

Through feminist approaches, the Department will accelerate the implementation of the WPS commitments in the Secretary-General’s Action for Peacekeeping Initiative (2018), which elevates women’s full, equal and meaningful participation to the core of political solutions, and advance his Call to Action on Women Transforming Peace and Security in peacekeeping contexts.

@UNpeacekeeping @WPSHAcompact #A4P #GenerationEquality #ActForEqual
We reiterate our commitment to:

STRENGTHEN WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

Women's full, equal, and meaningful participation and leadership in all stages of peace and political processes is a political imperative, and a non-negotiable priority. We must recognize women as transformative leaders and equal partners in peace and security and expand their political space. It is central to achieving sustainable peace outcomes.

In the design of peace processes, we must factor women's political agency and leadership in formal and informal spaces. We must tap into and invest in the social capital and interconnectedness of women peacebuilders, leaders, ex-combatants and women's organizations and networks in their diversity to shape peace negotiations, implement peace agreements, lead political transitions, and influence security arrangements for a protective environment. Harnessing data and gender analysis for accountable decision-making is crucial to achieve this.

We must strengthen women's participation and leadership in the security sector, which is central to building inclusive, accountable, and legitimate security institutions. It is also a strategic imperative to increase the diversity of personnel in peacekeeping operations so both women and men can contribute meaningfully in delivering peacekeeping mandates.

DPO'S APPROACH TO WPS


Key facts & figures: DPO initiatives to promote women in peacekeeping.
• Advocate with conflict parties to ensure delegations include women and prioritize their rights, to ensure that they recognize and include delegations which prioritize the inclusion of women.

• Use good offices for political advocacy to advance women’s full, equal and meaningful participation in peace and political processes, and ensure that advocacy efforts are informed by gender analysis and priorities of women’s rights and women-led organizations.

• Deepen financial and technical support for women-led community-based peacebuilding infrastructures and expand advocacy efforts to recognize, support and protect women and young women’s role as mediators, community leaders, and peacebuilding advocates.

• Take concrete action to support women’s full, equal, meaningful, and direct participation in UN-led processes, to realize the Secretary-General’s goal of ensuring that women are fully involved as equal partners in each and every peace and political process that the United Nations supports.

• Agree on and use quantitative and qualitative standards to measure and track the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in UN-led or co-led peace processes.

• Conduct systematic and comprehensive gender responsive conflict analysis, in line with entity-specific reporting, at all stages and all levels of peace processes to inform political strategies and strategic planning processes.

• Take steps for women civil society organizations to influence peace processes from the outset, including through supporting cross-regional networks of women mediators and women peacebuilders, including those in forced displacement situations and who are stateless, and promote inclusive and gender-responsive processes.

• Scale up advocacy and financial support, and continue to provide technical assistance where requested, to enhance the participation of women in appointed and elected public positions.

• Strengthen UN system actions and strategies to support the achievement of gender parity targets at all levels including in senior leadership roles.

• Promote coherence and coordination among UN entities on gender responsive security sector reform, including development of guidance and tools on increasing women’s meaningful participation in the security sector.

• Seek and advocate for approval for funding of senior gender advisers and senior women protection advisors in all relevant UN missions, with political and other requisite support to address specific gender considerations and human rights violations.