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UN POLICE

MAGAZINE



*Building Institutional Police Capacity
in Post-Conflict Environments*

United Nations
Department of Peacekeeping Operations



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Message from Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

This second edition of the UN Police Magazine comes at a critical time, with demand for officers and blue helmets at record highs and the process of security sector reform fully underway in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

The surge in demand for UN ‘boots on the ground’ attests not only to the Organization’s abiding relevance, but also to its central place in advancing human dignity. And with our mission in peacekeeping comes the need for security sector reform. We have learned at great cost – from Angola and Haiti to Timor-Leste and Sierra Leone – that without effective, well-governed security institutions in place, the maintenance of peace is short-lived.

In our effort to help countries ravaged by conflict, the work of UN Police is indispensable to establishing law and order – not temporarily, but for the long haul. That is why, in police reform, we no longer focus only on mentoring and monitoring national forces, but even more on building capacity through training, advising and leading by example.

When I was a child growing up in war-torn and destitute Korea, the UN flag served as a beacon of better days to come. I know from that experience the hope and expectation felt by others now living under difficult conditions. I pledge my full support to the UN Police deployed in the world’s most dangerous places, working to keep this proud flag of ours flying, wherever and whenever it is needed most.



Ban Ki-moon

Message from the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Marie Guéhenno

More United Nations peacekeepers are deployed today in more areas of the world than ever before, with over 100,000 men and women from 115 countries serving in 18 operations on four continents. Just last year alone UN Police deployments increased by 30 percent worldwide.

This unprecedented demand requires a more systematic, structured international response and has led to ambitious reform in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations as we seek to build on our capacity for innovation.

The scale of global challenges we face also calls for an evolving role for individual peacekeepers and for UN Police officers this means greater focus on building the capacity of local services: on mentoring and coaching rather than simply observing.

Developing an all-inclusive approach to the rule of law is also a key element and one that involves the three pillars of police, the judiciary and the prisons or corrections services all working together towards our ultimate goal as peacekeepers.

Such a goal remains in essence simple. Our objective is to enable men, women and children around the world to emerge from the scourge of war and pursue lives of dignity and basic humanity. It is to these individuals that our greatest obligation lies.



Jean-Marie Guéhenno



In the News ...

IN CONVERSATION WITH...Interim Police Adviser Mohammed Alhassan



Interim Police Adviser Mohammed Alhassan. (UN Photo)

As the first African head of the UN Police Division, and a senior Ghanaian officer with more than 25 years experience, what do you believe are Africa's special challenges and what are its contributions to peacekeeping in general and policing in particular?

It's important that one realizes the limitations facing so many African nations. So many of Africa's citizens remain without access to fundamental rights, such as education, basic healthcare and also the principles of good governance and rule of law remain just at the beginning... But these challenges are not insurmountable. I am confident that the continent is moving forward.

Despite facing internal difficulties, many African nations do not hesitate to contribute military and police to UN peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding missions. Out of a total of more than 9,500 UN Police in peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions, Africa contributes around 3,300 or so officers, that's around 35 per cent, from 33 different African countries. By serving in these peace missions, police officers from all nations not only impart their skills and best practices to the host

country but it also offers the opportunity to readily exchange ideas and work with UN partners. It enhances international policing practices.

What is the most important thing about UN policing that you've learnt from your experiences?

What I've learned from my experiences in Liberia as the Police Commissioner and elsewhere that must be carried into other upcoming missions, is the fact that UN Member States and all stakeholders need to put at the disposal of the UN Police, and for that matter other UN components, the necessary means to support the development of local forces and institutions if we are not to lose momentum.

There must also be political will from the countries themselves, with legislative actions for example to speed up judicial and legislative reform. The whole approach must be holistic, both from international actors and donor groups and the Governments themselves: basically all sides have their roles to play.

What particular experiences do you have of Liberia, where I believe you will return once a new Police Adviser is hired?

Yes, at the appropriate time after a new UN Police chief is appointed I believe I will be released to return to my work in Liberia. One of the key things that impresses me about working there is the level of commitment and dedication of UN police officers who come on mission despite the trying circumstances under which they operate. You see the zeal and readiness to give of their best. Secondly, I must say that I have also been impressed by the eagerness, the readiness and commitment of their Liberian counterparts. Old and new police recruits who truly express their civic mindedness to change and get committed in really re-making Liberia once again.

With more than a quarter of a century of law enforcement experience behind you, including time



spent on several UN missions, what do you feel are the main challenges facing global policing in the 21st century?

I think it is the frequency and complexity of conflicts and therefore the resultant post-conflict situations that are the greatest challenges. As a result UN Police have to deal with much more complex situations now than in the past so our role has to change from simply monitoring for example to mentoring, and this means officers have to be adept at conflict resolution. Officers must also have a broad understanding and commitment to human rights which they must be able to instill into their local counterparts for them to understand what accountability means.

Additionally, let us state that UN Police in the 21st century must also have the capacity to respond quickly and decisively when needed and at the same time have the focus to look at the longer term objective of developing local policing institutions and capacity. This realization led to the concept of the Standing Police Capacity or SPC, which has already got full backing from Member States.

Can you elaborate on the Standing Police Capacity?

Initially the Standing Police Capacity will be made up of a team of 25 recruited officers with specific expertise, and the first of these, including the chief, have recently arrived at UN Headquarters in New York. The SPC is important for global peacekeeping because it affords the UN a core foundation of police and law enforcement expertise. It will provide a rapid response capability but its officers will also have a longer term role to play in helping rebuild, restructure and reform the existing local force. So yes, the SPC will offer an immediate response capability but the long term objective is to put plans in place that would ensure a smooth transition to another UN mission aimed at institutional capacity building. SPC officers won't stay in a place for the long-term. They will prepare the ground for a long-term, full UN mission to take over and UN Police officers will be part of this bigger, longer-term mission. The SPC also has the responsibility of assisting existing missions with specialist requirements.

Thank you Police Adviser.

(UN News Service)

Personal Qualities of a UN Police Officer:

- ◆ Good judgment, supported by a common-sense approach to problem-solving;
- ◆ Objective attitude, displaying tact and impartiality;
- ◆ Polite demeanour, combined with a firm but flexible and honest approach;
- ◆ Considerable self-discipline and patience;
- ◆ A friendly, open approach to other nationalities and a ready sense of humour;
- ◆ Ability to influence others, resulting from imagination and persuasiveness; and
- ◆ Demonstrable leadership skills.

Obligations of UN Police officers on duty

UN Police officers must:

- ◆ Perform their duties solely in the interests of the UN, acting so as to recognise the needs and interests of the host country and its people, and acting with strict impartiality, integrity, independence and tact;
- ◆ Respect the laws of the host country in so far as they do not conflict with internationally recognized human rights standards, UN rules and regulations and other relevant procedures;
- ◆ Not abuse or exploit individual members of the local population, in particular women and children. Sexual exploitation and abuse are strictly prohibited;
- ◆ Neither solicit nor accept any material reward, honour or gift from any source other than the UN;
- ◆ Treat UN property with care and not trade, sell or use such property for personal benefit;
- ◆ Exercise utmost discretion in all matters of official business and not communicate to an unauthorized person any information known to them by reason of their official position nor at any time use such information to their private advantage;
- ◆ Not accept instructions from sources external to the UN;
- ◆ Show courtesy and respect to all other UN mission personnel; and
- ◆ Observe internationally recognized human rights standards and not discriminate against any person on any grounds.



In first for UN peacekeeping, all-female police unit arrives in Liberia

For the first time in the history of United Nations peacekeeping, an all-female Formed Police Unit (FPU) arrived in Liberia in January to join the world body's operation as it works to strengthen the rule of law and maintain peace in the West African country.

The new officers serving with the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) are "very confident, they are trained, and I think they will perform well out here," said their commander, Seema Dhundiya.

She emphasized that the Unit, which consists of 103 women performing operational tasks and 22 men doing logistics work, is well-prepared to meet the challenges ahead. "Our contingent has been carved out from a paramilitary force and as far as training is concerned, it is almost on the same line of what army recruits get."

Ms. Dhundiya pledged that the officers, who are armed with sophisticated weapons, will carry out their work with utmost professionalism.

"We are definitely going to perform to the best of our abilities and raise the expectations of our senior authorities and our own country."

We hope that the presence of this all-female contingent will serve as an incentive and an attraction to encourage young Liberian women to join the Liberian National Police.

Describing the arrival of the female police, UN spokesman Ben Dotsei Malor said they looked sharp and motivated despite having just arrived by air. "Even though they have just come off this flight they look like they are ready for action," he said.

Mr. Malor emphasized that the Indian blue berets would help the Liberia National Police (LNP) while supporting the work of the UN in the country.

"We hope that the presence of this all-female contingent will serve as an incentive and an attrac-



Indian Formed Police Unit (FPU) commander Seema Dhundiya and her 103 female colleagues arrive in Liberia, 31 January 2007 (UNMIL Photo by Eric Kanalstein)



tion to encourage young Liberian women to join the Liberian National Police,” said UNMIL Police Commissioner Mohammed Alhassan.

Ms. Dhundiya was optimistic that her officers could function as role models. “I think the Liberian people are going to welcome us with open arms and more of the local population will get inspired seeing these girls properly dressed, well equipped and probably they will get motivated to join the UN police officers, especially the girls.”

The Indian women “are the right people at the right time to come here now,” said Mr. Malor.

“They are professional, skilled, capable, and they will be able to do the job just as well as their male counterparts are already doing on the ground if not better in some instances.”

“The arrival today of the all-female FPU from India is an extra boost to our policing efforts here in Liberia,” agreed Mr. Alhassan.

The new Unit joins 82 female UN police officers serving with UNMIL in various capacities.

(UN News Service)

Envoy joins UN, Liberian police on night patrol in the capital

The United Nations envoy in Liberia accompanied national and UN Police officers in April on a special night patrol to some of the most crime-prone areas of the capital, Monrovia, as part of the world body’s ongoing efforts to reassure the community and improve law and order throughout the country.

“We are very much concerned with the safety of Monrovia’s citizens,” said the Secretary-General’s Special Representative for Liberia, Alan Doss, as he met with members of the public during the patrol, which marked the end of “Operation Sweeping Wave II” aimed at curbing criminal activities.



UN Special Representative Alan Doss (at right) accompanies Liberian and UN Police on a night patrol in the capital, 17 April 2007 (UNMIL Photo by Eric Kanalstein)



Mr. Doss noted that Liberia's National Police (LNP) is working under difficult conditions, but he said new uniforms had been obtained from the United States and equipment and vehicles had also been ordered through the UN.

UN Police Commissioner Mohammed Alhassan, LNP Inspector-General Beatrice Munah Sieh and other officials also took part in the patrol, during which Ms. Sieh stressed the importance of the police interacting with the public and urged people to provide officers with information on crime.

"Everywhere we went, community leaders came out to see us. It shows that the community is now accepting the police. In the past, they were running away from the police," she said, adding that the police need logistical support to be more effective.

Mr. Doss, who heads the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), also visited the Zone 1 Police Station on Bushrod Island as part of the

patrol. This station was the first police facility to be rehabilitated through UNMIL's Quick Impact Project programme, which has now helped construct and rehabilitate 25 police stations throughout the country.

The importance of police interacting with the public and the public providing officers with information on crime.

UNMIL was established in 2003 to support Liberia's ceasefire and peace process, and currently has over 15,200 uniformed personnel, along with around 500 international civilian personnel, almost 1,000 local staff and 220 UN Volunteers.

In February, the Security Council extended UNMIL's mandate. It also cited progress in a number of areas, including the re-integration of former fighters, and therefore asked the Secretary-General to report on plans to draw down the level of blue helmets.

(UN News Service)

UN Police plays 'critical' role in consolidating peace in Liberia: force commander

United Nations Police (UNPOL) officers play a key role in consolidating peace in Liberia and assisting the country rebuild, particularly by training and supporting the local force in all aspects of law enforcement, the mission's force commander said recently.

Addressing UNPOL officers during an awards ceremony in the capital Monrovia in May, the UN Mission in Liberia's (UNMIL's) Lieutenant General Chikadibia Isaac Obiakor acknowledged that building peace in the country was a "challenging task" faced by all peacekeepers, as he urged them to work to gain the respect and trust of the people.

"The responsibility of UN Police officers in consolidating peace in Liberia is very critical to the success of UNMIL's mandate...Your

work and special skills have contributed significantly in helping Liberia with its recovery, reconstruction and development," he said, before awarding UN peacekeeping medals to 120 Jordanian police officers and one from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM).

Building peace in the country is a challenging task faced by all peacekeepers.

"Jordan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have demonstrated their commitment to international peace and security. You have done well in assisting, supporting and training the Liberia National Police (LNP)."

The officers have also dealt with different types of crimes, as well as conducted anti-riot opera-



tions and joint patrols along with the LNP, UNMIL Military and fellow UNPOL colleagues.

Jordan has been contributing personnel to UN peacekeeping since 1992, while the former

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia started its contribution in 2006 with the deployment of one female officer to Liberia, Juliana Trajkovik.

(UN News Service)

Timor-Leste: UN envoy pays special tribute to police for peaceful presidential elections

The United Nations envoy to Timor-Leste has paid special tribute to the world body's police officers and local forces following the tiny nation's landmark presidential election in April and the run-off on 9 May – the first polls in the country since it gained independence from Indonesia in 2002.

“I had been confident all along that the election would be peaceful and I would like to congratulate the people of Timor-Leste on their peaceful participation,” said the Special Representative of the Secretary-General Atul Khare, head of the UN Interim Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT).

“I would like to thank UNPOL (UN Police) and the PNTL, the local police service, who worked tirelessly around the clock, far beyond the call of duty, supported by ISF (International Security Forces) as needed, to secure this good result.”

Through Resolution 1704 (2006), which was adopted last August, the Security Council mandated UNPOL to “assist in the planning and preparing of electoral-related security arrangements to adequately prepare the national police for performing their roles and responsibilities during the conduct of the 2007 elections.”



A Bangladeshi Formed Police Unit (FPU) ensures security in Ossu subdistrict during run-off presidential elections in Timor-Leste on 9 May 2007 (UNMIT Photo by Martine Perret)



A UN Police officer discusses the security situation with Timorese in the east of the country ahead of presidential run-off polls, 5 May 2007 (UNMIT Photo by Martine Perret)

A comprehensive and detailed Election Security Plan was published by the UNPOL Commissioner and PNTL General Commander to be implemented by both sets of officers, and also distributed to the relevant Timorese government officials and UN agencies.

This plan envisaged four phases of operations, namely a voter registration period, campaign period, election day and the post-election period. It also involved setting up National and District Task Forces, protecting the eight presidential candidates, providing security for the hundreds of polling centres and stations countrywide, as well as a host of other security tasks.

Following the peaceful 9 May run-off poll, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he was “greatly encouraged” by the vote, adding that he “trusts that the same peaceful and democratic spirit will prevail during the vote counting and tabulation process over the next few days.”

After the first round in April, UNMIT acknowledged that although the process was “not perfect, the consensus assessment was that they were free and fair, reflecting the will of the voters,” adding that considering they were the first national elections the Timorese authorities had ever conducted, they were nevertheless a “significant achievement.

Before the run-off poll, the Deputy Special Representative in charge of security, Eric Tan, said lessons learned from the first round had been incorporated into the planning for the May vote.

UNPOL (UN Police) and the PNTL, the local police service, worked tirelessly around the clock, far beyond the call of duty, and were supported by ISF (International Security Forces) as needed.

“UNPOL, through its National Investigation Department, will place teams in key locations to ensure prompt investigations into any allegations of irregularities, especially intimidation, during the elections. This is a new addition to the security plan,” he said.

UNMIT currently has over 1,600 police officers, including 90 female officers, from 41 different countries helping the national police restore order throughout the impoverished country.

(UN News Service)



Security Council extends Timor-Leste mission for 1 year, boosts police

The Security Council has extended the United Nations mission in Timor-Leste for another year until February 2008 and also added up to 140 extra police officers to boost security efforts for this year's elections, which include June's parliamentary polls.

The 15-member body voted unanimously in February to extend the mandate of the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), which was due to expire on 25 February, as well as for an additional Formed Police Unit (FPU), made up of more heavily armed officers. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon had called for both measures, which were also backed by Timorese leaders.

The resolution expressed the Council's concern over the still fragile and volatile security, political, social and humanitarian situation in Timor-Leste and welcomed "initial efforts made in the security sector."

The FPU, to be comprised of up to 140 police officers, aims to supplement the existing deployment "particularly during the pre- and post-electoral period."

The Council also expressed its "full support" for the International Security Forces (ISF) in Timor-Leste, and urged the Government to continue working with UNMIT on a comprehensive review of the security sector.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General Atul Khare, who heads UNMIT, has urged the population to fully support the security efforts of the UN and local police, as well as those of the ISF, as they work to stop the recent upsurge in violence, particularly in the capital Dili.

The Council created UNMIT in August 2006 to help restore order after deadly fighting, attributed to differences between eastern and western regions, broke out in April and May and caused the deaths of at least 37 people and forced about 155,000 others – or 15 per cent of the population – to flee their homes.

(UN News Service)



Portuguese Formed Police Unit (FPU) patrols on presidential election day, 9 April 2007 (UNMIT/UN Police Photo)



Female UN officers are role models in war-torn States: General Assembly President



UN Police officer Juliana Trajkovik (at left), from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), working with a Liberian officer assists aspiring local women join the Liberia National Police, 21 January 2007 (UN Photo by Eric Kanalstein)

Highlighting the landmark deployment earlier this year of an all-female Formed Police Unit (FPU) to Liberia, the United Nations General Assembly President has stressed that female UN military and police serve as role models in the war-torn countries where they serve.

“Peacekeepers not only carry out their mandated tasks; they create a lasting legacy by exemplifying how military and police can engage in humanitarian work while interacting respectfully with civil society,” General Assembly President Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa said in a message marking International Day of UN Peacekeepers on 29 May.

“A shining example of this is the first ever all-female contingent of United Nations Police sent from India to Liberia. These Blue Berets are not only helping to restore the rule

of law, they are also serving as role models for Liberian women.”

“In fact, since the contingent’s arrival, the number of Liberian women taking steps to join the national police force has increased,” she added.

Sheikha Haya also hailed the contribution being made by UN military, police and civilian personnel across the world who are engaged in a broad range of activities, from disarmament to human rights monitoring. “Accomplishments last year – from helping organize the Democratic Republic of the Congo’s first elections in four decades to taking Haiti’s streets back from the gangs – are milestones of success,” she said.

“The overarching objective is to create space for individuals to resume a normal life, so that children can return to school, ex-fighters



can join the workforce and farmers can use fields once infested with mines to plant crops,” she added.

The President emphasized that UN operations “do more than just silence the guns; they help to foster a culture of sustainable peace in countries that have been devastated by conflict, some for decades.”

A shining example is the first ever all-female contingent of United Nations Police sent from India to Liberia. These Blue Berets are not only helping to restore the rule of law, they are also serving as role models for Liberian women.

(UN News Service)

UN Police workshop in Italy is latest effort to attract more female officers

As part of broader United Nations efforts to attract more women into global peacekeeping, the UN Police Division organized a 4-day conference at the world body’s Training Centre in Italy in March, to build upon progress made by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in earlier seminars.

Successes have been achieved over the last two years in attracting more female officers into the UN Police, including the recent introduction into Liberia of the all-female specialized unit, but while Police Adviser Mark Kroeker was full of praise for all his officers worldwide – both men and women, he stressed that the current figure of just 6 per cent of the force made up of female officers was unacceptable. Mr. Kroeker finished his term as Adviser in April this year.

“I am extremely gratified by the increase in the numbers of women who serve in police components in UN missions. The fact that we have women in police and that they are serving in various leadership positions, and various tactical positions, an entire Formed Police Unit (FPU) for example made up of women in Liberia, this is all encouraging,” he said.

“But this is way too few. Our attempts at getting our Members States to contribute police are difficult but the attempts in addition to add women to their contribution, this is almost impossible: we need to have women police officers so that we send the signal that women are co-equals in police work and that’s the way it should be because they’re

(continues on page 14)

The Security Council adopted resolution 1325 on 31 October 2000, and among its key provisions, it:

- ◆ reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution;
- ◆ requests the Secretary-General to provide to Member States training guidelines and materials on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women, as well as on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peacebuilding measures.



Actual / Projected Deployment of U

MINURSO
Western Sahara
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UNMIS
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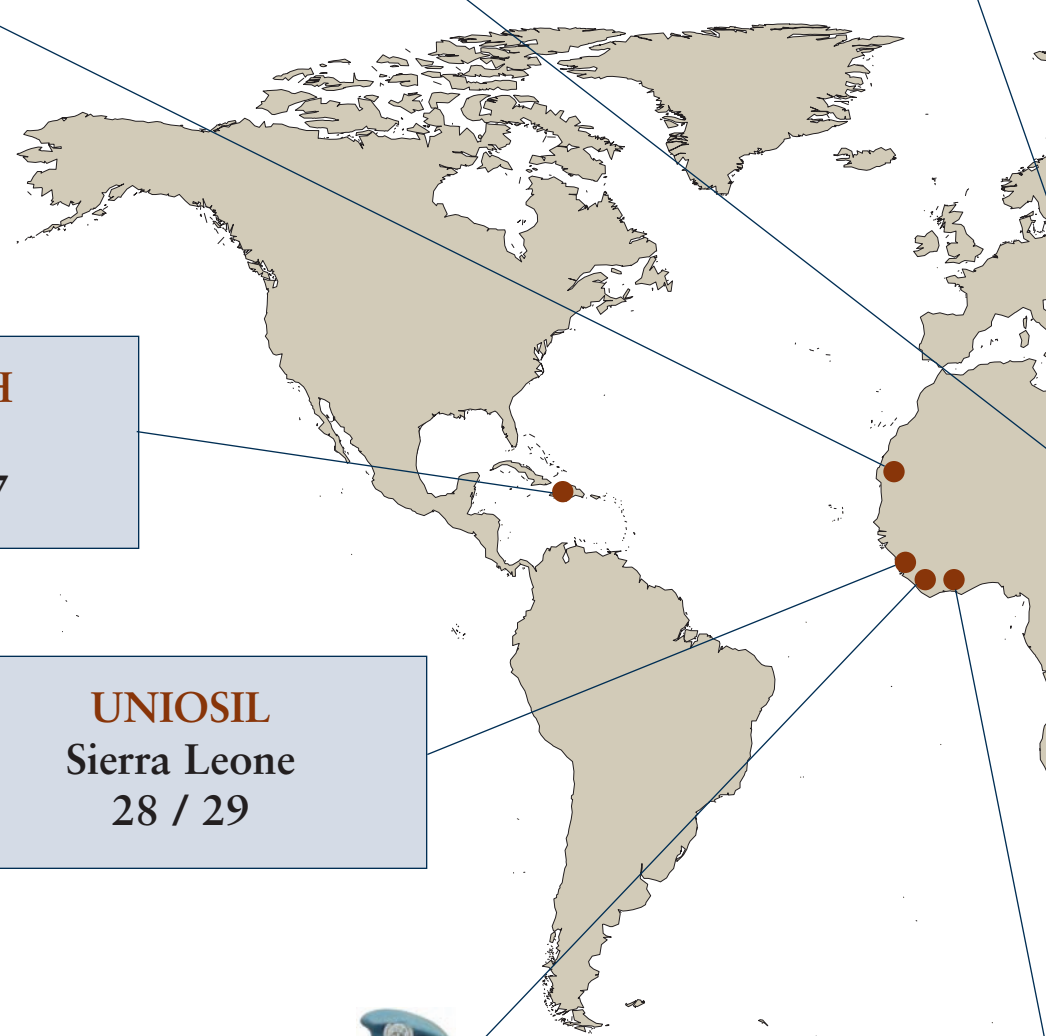
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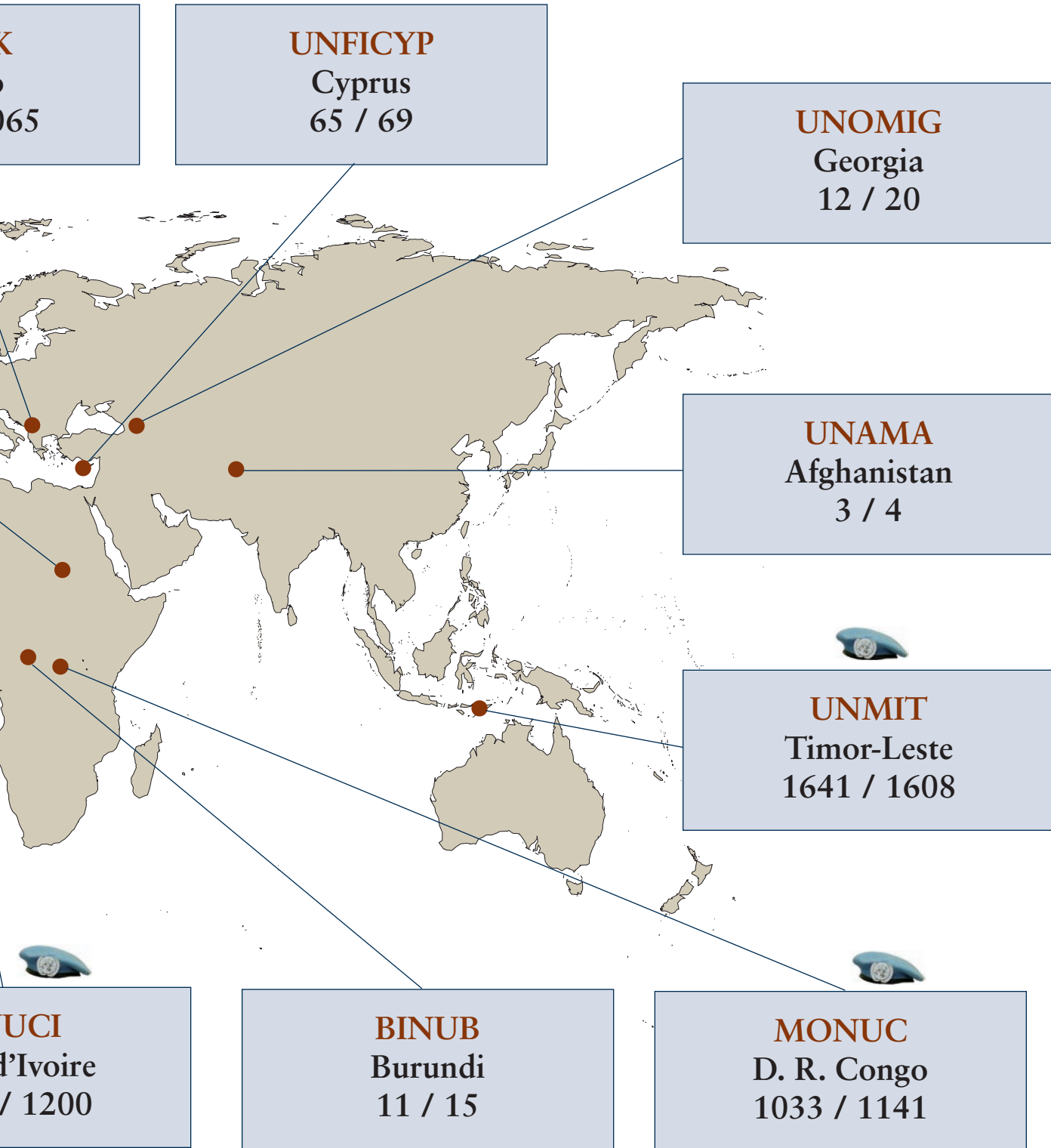


Formed Police Units



UN Police in Peacekeeping Missions

– May 2007 –





available for every assignment as every man is in policing.”

Women must be included in peace-keeping, peacemaking and peacebuilding, states UN Security Council resolution 1325, which is binding on all 192 Member States.

The 20-23 March workshop in Brindisi, Italy, brought together around 30 gender experts from both within and outside the UN to discuss ways to encourage Member States to provide more female officers, as well as come up with operational guidelines for officers in the field.

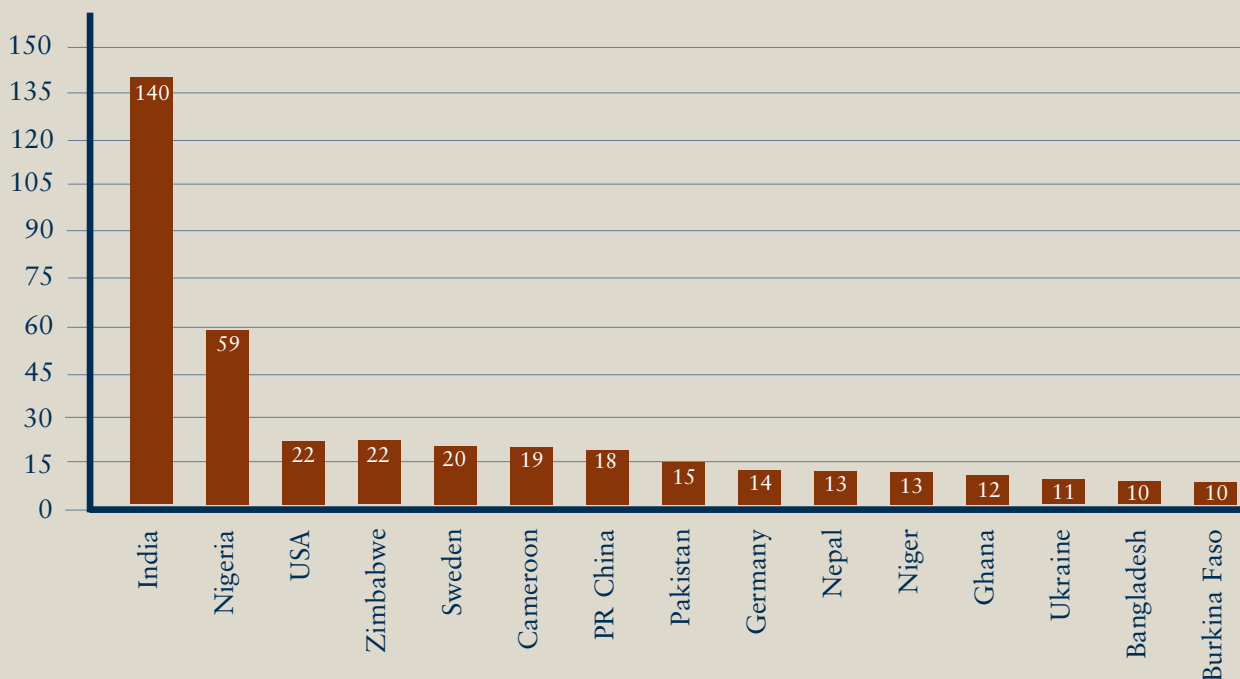
The Italy workshop built upon recommendations made at earlier UN Police meetings, including a two-day seminar in Nigeria in January, which called among other things for the Police Adviser to visit prospective donor countries to discuss with them the need to provide a mix of male and female officers.

“We are grateful to the countries that have provided officers to UN policing, but we have a lot of work to do to get more women into the field, we can do a lot better,” said Mr. Kroeker, who gave the keynote address at the Brindisi meeting, as well as offering other institutional support.

“The first and foremost reason that women should be in policing is that police organizations, if they’re not an occupying force but a service organization, should reflect the communities that they serve, and the communities that they serve have a gender mix. And if you show that you have a mixed composition there’s a very significant chance that you will increase the receptivity, the respect that that community will have for the police.”

He also noted that there are certain specific responsibilities that women in most cases perform better than male officers, namely sexual assault cases and in some instances child abuse cases where the victims – mostly female, feel more at ease, culturally and emotionally, dealing with a female officer.

Top Female Contributing Countries - May 2007





UN Police Gender Advisers Jacqueline Massangue (left) and Fernanda Tavares discuss gender and human rights with participants at the Brindisi Workshop, Italy, March 2007. (UN Photo by Ramli Yoosuf)

The Italy seminar also followed from a wider DPKO Strategy workshop, held in Pretoria, South Africa from 7-9 February, that discussed greater involvement of women in peacekeeping and brought together almost 100 senior government, civil society, UN and other representatives from over 20 countries.

Police organizations should reflect the communities that they serve, and the communities that they serve have a gender mix.

The keynote speaker at the February gathering, formally known as the DPKO Strategy Workshop with Women's Constituencies from Troop and Police Contributing Countries, was

Rachel Mayanja, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women. In particular, she highlighted the importance of Security Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, which underlines the need for gender-sensitive approaches to the restoration of peace and stability in post-conflict situations.

“Women must be included in peacekeeping, peacemaking and peacebuilding, says the UN Security Council through its resolution 1325. And as we know, Security Council resolutions are binding on each and every member state of the United Nations,” said Ms. Mayanja in her speech.

(UN News Service)



Specialized UN Police units help civilians during DR Congo unrest: official

Specialized United Nations Police units from Bangladesh and India were instrumental in saving civilian lives during the heavy fighting that erupted earlier this year in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the world body's top police officer has said.

The specialized armoured police units – known as Formed Police Units (FPUs) – from Bangladesh and India “operated at considerable risk to extricate people who had been pinned down by gunfire who were actually inside homes where mortar rounds and other munitions were being deployed,” UN Police (UNPOL) Adviser Mark Kroeker told the UN News Service at the time.

The UN mission in the DRC, known as MONUC, estimates that hundreds were killed

and many more wounded in the violence that broke out on 22 March between Government forces and guards of former Vice-President Jean-Pierre Bemba, who was defeated last year by current President Joseph Kabila in the run-off round of landmark presidential elections.

The FPUs rescued not only “the high-level people such as ambassadors, but also just ordinary people who are trapped and who needed to be evacuated from the line of fire,” Mr. Kroeker added, voicing his gratitude to the police officers, none of whom have been reported injured. “They were in what turned out to be almost a military environment, but they operated as a rescue unit helping people.”

FPUs were first used as part of the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), but their success there and



A Bangladeshi police officer helps rush injured civilians to a first aid post after clashes in the Congolese capital Kinshasa, 22 March 2007. (UN Photo by Martine Perret)



in other operations has led to calls for increasing deployment, and to date, there are 35 units dispersed among six missions worldwide.

The Formed Police Units (FPUs) from Bangladesh and India operated at considerable risk to extricate people who had been pinned down by gunfire.

Each of these units, comprising over 100 police officers from a single country, is highly mobile and tactically ready to respond to various situations, including crowd control, riots or natural disasters, where local agencies are overwhelmed or lack capacity due to conflict.

FPUs, known for their competence and efficiency, have demonstrated “compassion and caring” not only last week in the DRC, but in other instances as well, Mr. Kroeker said.

For example, a Jordanian FPU with the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) recently visited an orphanage housing approximately 350 children who lost their parents in the civil war that ravaged the country, and brought with them food from their own storage to feed the orphans. An Indian FPU stationed in Kisangani in the DRC is helping with the re-equipping of schools and also assisting the community in other ways.

Mr. Kroeker noted that such efforts help to hasten communities’ acceptance of the UNPOL officers and also show that “they’re more than just police officers, but police officers who care” with a “beating humanitarian heart under that big façade of the tough cop.”

Mr. Kroeker ended his two-year assignment as Police Adviser in April.

(UN News Service)

UN steps up police presence in troubled province of DR Congo following violence

The United Nations peacekeeping mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) deployed an additional police unit in the troubled province of Bas-Congo in February, after more than 70 people were reportedly killed amid violent clashes following local elections.

The police presence of the Mission (MONUC) was reinforced as two UN multi-disciplinary teams arrived to investigate the circumstances around the violence in the province and the city of Matadi, UN spokesperson Michele Montas told reporters in New York.

These teams focused on security issues and the humanitarian needs of those injured or otherwise affected by the violence.

MONUC said it was deplorable that local police in Bas-Congo, in the far west of the vast country, had told the public that UN troops were respon-

sible, and added that such misinformation had led angry youths to stone two UN vehicles.

First democratic elections in over four decades were held last year, the largest and most complex polls the UN has ever helped organize.

MONUC has overseen the DRC’s transition from a six-year civil war that cost 4 million lives in fighting and attendant hunger and disease, widely considered the most lethal conflict since World War II, to gradual stabilization. The first democratic elections in over four decades were held last year, the largest and most complex polls the UN has ever helped organize.

More recently, the mission has been concerned with violence in the DRC’s far east, where certain army elements continue to harass and terrorize civilians



while renegade forces who refuse to join in the demobilization and reintegration process have engaged in rape and other human rights abuses.

about what he called mounting evidence that Congolese security forces had conducted serious human rights abuses.

The Secretary-General's Special Representative William Lacy Swing has voiced grave concern

(UN News Service)



Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visited the Democratic Republic of the Congo in January, pledging continued UN support to consolidate peace. (UN Photo by Eskinder Debebe)

Côte d'Ivoire: UN participates in ceremony integrating former rebels into the army

Welcoming the willingness of former rival parties to implement a recent peace deal in Côte d'Ivoire, the United Nations peacekeeping mission in the West African country participated in a ceremony in May marking the official integration of former rebels into two army brigades.

By attending the ceremony, the mission, known as UNOCI, showed its support for the Ouagadougou Peace Accord between President Laurent Gbagbo and Forces Nouvelles Secretary-General Guillaume Soro which com-

mits both sides to abide by free, fair and transparent elections.

Mixed brigades comprise four UN Police officers and 10 people each from the Defence and Security Forces (FDS) of Côte d'Ivoire and Forces Nouvelles.

The deal also calls for the dismantling of the Zone of Confidence, which separates the Government-controlled south from the rebel-held north.



The Minister of Defence, Michel Amani N'Guessan, who led the ceremony, thanked UNOCI for its assistance in maintaining the peace, and called on the mission to continue to work with Ivorians to consolidate stability.

At the event held in Bangolo, in western Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Amani also said that mixed brigades were essential and “should not constitute a platform for revenge between former enemy brothers.”

Problems “will be progressively resolved, and so will the security situation,” he noted at the ceremony, which was attended by both General Philippe Mangou of the national army, the Defence and Security Forces (FDS) of Côte d'Ivoire, and General Soumaila Bakayoko, of Forces Nouvelles.

Participants also visited the locations of the mixed brigades, which comprise four UN police officers and 10 people each from FDS and Forces Nouvelles.

Mr. Amani also called on both sides to wipe the slate clean of any past grievances and to show

tolerance and forgiveness to make the Accord, reached on 4 March, a success. “This agreement came from Ivorians and its failure would not be understood,” he said.

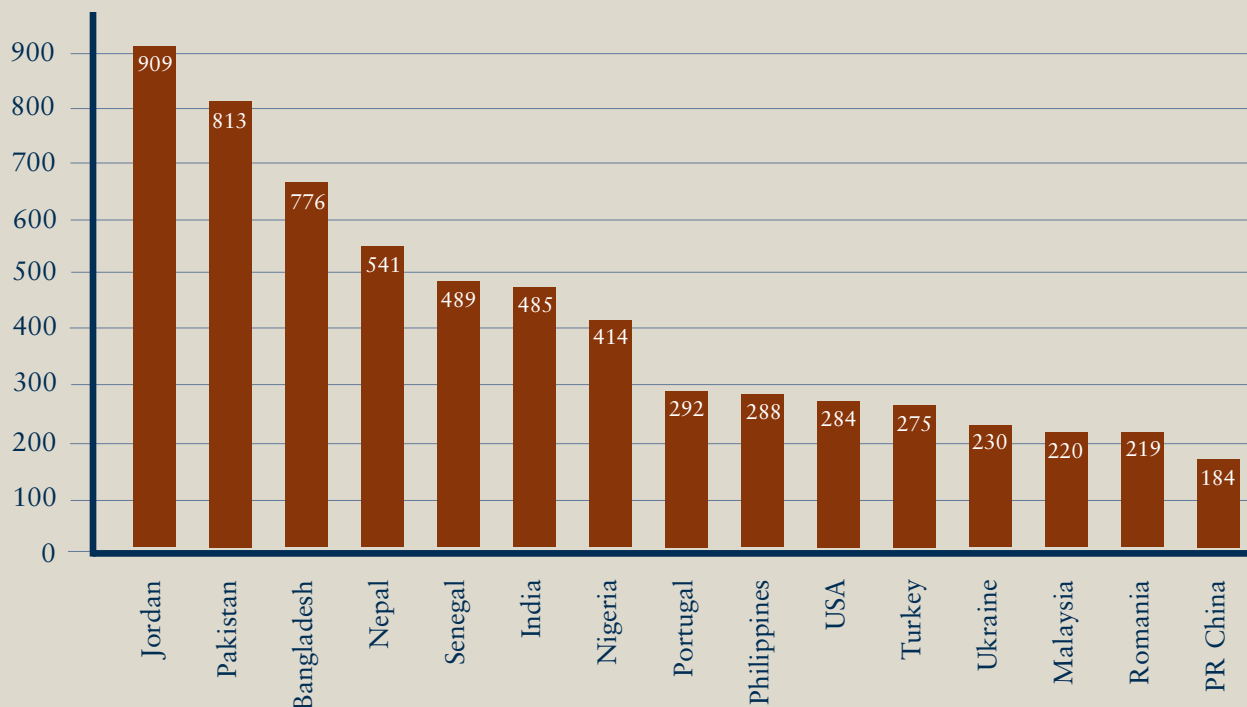
UNOCI's Deputy Force Commander General Elhadji Mouahamadou Kandji and the UN Police Commissioner General Cristian Gerardo Chaumont represented the world body at the ceremony, where the UN flag was replaced by the Ivorian one.

The dismantling of the Zone of Confidence began with a ceremony on 16 April, during which a mixed brigade in N'Gattadolikro, in the centre of the country, was installed in the presence of President Gbagbo.

UNOCI has over 9,000 uniformed personnel in the country, including around 7,850 troops and over 1,000 police with a mandate to monitor the cessation of hostilities and movements of armed groups, help in disarmament and dismantling of militias, and register voters.

(UN News Service)

Top Contributing Countries - May 2007





UN Police chief stresses need to support local services as he leaves his post

With the demand for United Nations police officers and all peacekeepers at record highs, the quality of personnel recruited must be maintained as their role in building national police capacity is more important than ever, the world body's top police officer said in April before he ended his two-year appointment.

Police Adviser Mark Kroeker, who has worked with the UN for around 13 years, acknowledged that challenges remain with the world body's policing, not least of which is attracting more female officers. But he said the whole division, working as part of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), has also had important successes.

“The Police Division here working together, the police components in the field – the major achievement collectively that we have made is that we have ratcheted up our quality: quality of leadership, quality of technical capability, quality

of police division, operation procedures... that's what I think is our biggest achievement,” he told the UN News Service.

Some recent initiatives involving the Police Division include putting in place the first all-female specialized police unit in Liberia, the establishment of the International Policing Advisory Council (IPAC), and preparations for setting up a Standing Police Capacity (SPC) of up to 100 officers who will be able to respond rapidly to UN operations wherever crises erupt.

The major achievement collectively that we have made is that we have ratcheted up our quality.

There are now almost 9,500 UN Police officers worldwide, a 60 per cent increase in the last three years.



Graduation ceremony for 493 newly trained Sudanese police officers whose training was assisted by the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS). The graduating class included 69 women (UN Photo by Tim McKulka)



At the weekly DPKO staff meeting, the UN peacekeeping chief paid tribute to Mr. Kroeker, and in particular his role in pushing forward the concept of the SPC, to which all Member States have given their support.

“Coming to the Department as the Police Adviser in February 2005 you have made a great difference to this Department. When I see where we are today and where we were two years ago: the sense of pride, the esprit de corps that you have built for the police. And as I recall all the very concrete achievements that you have

made... the most impressive one maybe being your work on the Standing Police Capacity,” said Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Marie Guéhenno.

A selection process is under way to find Mr. Kroeker’s successor but Mohammed Alhassan, the Police Commissioner in the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), will take over as interim Police Adviser.

(UN News Service)

Haiti: UN Police officers involved at ‘all levels’ in training of Academy recruits

United Nations Police (UNPOL) officers are continuing to help train their Haitian counterparts in all aspects of law enforcement in the impoverished country’s Police Academy, and so far this year hundreds of recruits have been put through their paces studying juvenile law, professional ethics and a host of related subjects.

“During the six months of training, UNPOL training officers work together with the HNP (Haitian National Police) and are involved at all levels,” said Fred Blaise, UNPOL spokesperson.

The current batch of students, the 19th class of the Academy, are made up of 646 aspiring police



Haitian police recruits undergoing training at the UN-supported Police Academy in the capital Port-au-Prince, April 2007. (UN Photo by Marco Dormino)



officers, including 78 women, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) said in a press release highlighting the close cooperation between UN and national instructors.

“The 43 UNPOL training officers in the Academy assist the Haitian instructors and also provide complementary information and tuition depending on their own expertise,” said John Lonsway, UNPOL’s training director.

The UN police officers’ training role at the Academy, and their other collaboration with the Haitian police, is part of overall UN efforts to help the authorities reform and restructure the national police.

Along with its more direct law-enforcement tasks, UN Police officers also act as technical advisers throughout Haiti, for example in police stations, in the Traffic Service, on joint patrols with national officers and in other areas, MINUSTAH said. And because of the high level of expertise of these advisers, they provide training of “international standard,” said Mr. Blaise.

MINUSTAH is currently made up of almost 9,000 uniformed personnel, including over 7,000 troops and almost 1,800 police, supported by around 450 international civilian personnel, over 730 local civilian staff and almost 200 UN Volunteers.

(UN News Service)

UN envoy hails successful Haitian elections

The senior United Nations envoy to Haiti has congratulated the people on the successful conclusion of a number of local, municipal and legislative elections at the start of the year that were part of broader efforts to consolidate democracy.

“After all the reports I have received and what I have witnessed myself today in the field, I wish to congratulate everybody on the excellent collaboration between MINUSTAH and the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP),” Edmond Mulet, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s Special Representative and head of MINUSTAH, said at the end of April.

“I also want to point out the very successful cooperation of the MINUSTAH Security Forces and the Haitian National Police and I want to thank them for their professional performance.”

More than 300,000 voters in 25 communities exercised their democratic right in 69 voting

centres and 770 polling stations to choose their representatives. With logistical and security support provided by MINUSTAH to the CEP and the Haitian National Police, all polling stations opened on time, allowing voters access to the polling booths, the mission said in a news release.

Ambassador Mulet visited voting centres in Gressier and Merger, south of the capital, Port-au-Prince, to get a first-hand impression of the situation. There he heard from CEP members and members of the Haitian National Police, UN Police (UNPOL) and the military that the polls were conducted peacefully.

“We commend the Haitian people for their demonstrated wish to utilize their democratic voice,” Mr. Mulet said.

(UN News Service)



More Chinese police arrive to serve with UN Mission in Haiti

On 13 April, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) announced the arrival of nearly 100 Chinese officers, including seven women, who are serving with a Formed Police Unit (FPU) in the Caribbean country.

The 95 new police, who joined a group of 30 FPU members of the same contingent that arrived a few days earlier, brings the total number of Chinese officers in Haiti to more than 120.

China has contributed more than 600 officers to Formed Police Units, plus 14 regular UN

Police officers, since the Mission was established in October 2004 after an insurgency forced President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to go into exile.

The latest contingent, replacing one which has rotated out, comes from Guangdong Province. Prior to their deployment to Haiti, its members underwent a five-month training course covering language, shooting, driving and combat/defensive tactics.

(UN News Service)



Members of the Chinese Formed Police Unit (FPU) in Haiti. (MINUSTAH/UN Police Photo)



Summary of Contributors of UN Police Personnel

- As of May 2007 -

COUNTRIES	TOTAL	UNMIK	UNMIT	UNIOSIL	UNFICYP	ONUB	MINURSO	UNMIS	UNAMA	UNMIL	UNOMIG	ONUCI	MONUC	MINUSTAH
Argentina	43	9			4			11		8		4	3	4
Australia	74		50		15			9						
Austria	22	22												
Bangladesh	776	28	192					27		29		250	250	
Benin	102					2						36	10	54
Bosnia & Herzeg.	15				3			2		10				
Brazil	16	2	8					3						3
Bulgaria	52	52												
Burkina Faso	111					2							45	64
Burundi	13											13		
Cameroon	165					2						66	55	42
Canada	74		6					2				4		62
Central Africa Republic	14											7	7	
Chad	18											12	2	4
Chile	15													15
Colombia	2													2
Cote D'Ivoire	17					2							15	
Croatia	14	9	2		3									
Czech Republic	21	16								5				
Denmark	24	23						1						
Djibouti	25											25		
Egypt	60	16	17			3	2			4				18
El Salvador	32		12		7	3	6			2				2
Fiji	37							7		30				
Finland	4	2						2						
France	144	47										10	9	78
FYROM -Macedonia	1									1				
Gambia	71		31	2				7		31				
Germany	167	153						5		5	4			
Ghana	121	35		2				37		40	1	6		
Greece	10	10												
Grenada	0													
Guinea	90												28	62
Hungary	12	12												
India	485	72	5	3	5			23		125		2	250	
Ireland	18				18									
Italy	33	29			4									
Jamaica	12							5		7				
Japan	2		2											
Jordan	909	68						24		140		382	4	291
Kenya	67	15		1				20		27			4	
Kyrgyzstan	15	8	2					2		3				
Lebanon	0													
Lithuania	6	6												
Madagascar	20					1						13	5	1
Malawi	24	4								20				

COUNTRIES	TOTAL	UNMIK	UNMIT	UNIOSIL	UNFICYP	ONUB	MINURSO	UNMIS	UNAMA	UNMIL	UNOMIG	ONUCI	MONUC	MINUSTAH
Malaysia	220		208	1				11						
Mali	88												20	68
Mauritius	2													2
Morocco	0													
Mozambique	0													
Namibia	20		13					1		6				
Nepal	541	17	87	2				43	1	256				135
Netherlands	22	1			6			15						
New Zealand	25		25											
Niger	159											59	46	54
Nigeria	414	14	54	5				41	1	163		11		125
Norway	23	9						4		10				
Pakistan	813	175	195					38		28		127		250
Palau	1		1											
People's Rep of China	184	18	10					9		18				129
Philippines	288	44	145					39	1	34		6		19
Poland	131	126								3	2			
Portugal	292	4	286	2										
Republic of Korea	5		5											
Romania	219	198	10										1	10
Russia	76	39	5					8		10	2		3	9
Rwanda	45							10		10		14		11
Samoa	44		15					15		14				
Senegal	489		17									81	256	135
Serbia	7									7				
Sierra Leone	0													
Singapore	21		21											
Slovenia	15	15												
Spain	74	13	10	3										48
Sri-Lanka	96		64					22		10				
Sweden	70	28	5	2				15		12			8	
Switzerland	11	6									3	2		
Tanzania	2							2						
Thailand	41		41											
Timor-Leste	8	8												
Togo	17											1		16
Tunisia	0													
Turkey	275	151	8	2		2		27		33		20	5	27
Uganda	58	4	16					17		21				
UK	71	66		3				2						
Ukraine	230	189	3					22		13			3	
Uruguay	9		3					2		3				1
USA	284	213	3					11		8				49
Vanuatu	24		11					6				4	2	1
Yemen	22		9					3		4		2	2	2
Zambia	56	7	6					22		21				
Zimbabwe	120	18	38					33		31				
Total:	9565	2001	1641	28	65	11	6	613	3	1202	12	1157	1033	1793



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