



**United Nations**

# **Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations**

**2023 substantive session  
(New York, 20 February–17 March 2023)**

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*Note*

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## Chapter I

### Introduction

1. By its resolution [76/263](#), the General Assembly took note of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations ([A/76/19](#)), decided that the Committee, in accordance with its mandate, should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in that field, and requested the Committee to submit a report on its work to the Assembly at its seventy-seventh session.

## Chapter II

### Organizational matters

#### A. Opening and duration of the session

2. The Committee held its substantive session of 2023 at Headquarters from 20 February to 17 March. It held three plenary meetings.

3. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management. At the 274th (opening) meeting, on 21 February, the President of the General Assembly addressed the Committee. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Africa in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations.

4. The Department of Peace Operations, the Department of Operational Support and the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance provided support to the Committee on substantive issues, while the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management served as the technical secretariat of the Committee.

#### B. Election of officers

5. At its 274th meeting, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

*Chair:*

Tijjani Muhammad Bande (Nigeria)

*Vice-Chairs:*

Fabián Oddone (Argentina)

Richard Arbeiter (Canada)

Hamamoto Yukiya (Japan)

Mateusz Sakowicz (Poland)

*Rapporteur:*

Wael Eldahshan (Egypt)

#### C. Agenda

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda (A/AC.121/2023/L.1), which read:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organization of work.
5. General debate.
6. In-session briefings.
7. Consideration of the draft report by the Working Group of the Whole.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session.

7. The Committee also approved its draft programme of work ([A/AC.121/2023/L.2](#)).

#### **D. Organization of work**

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee decided to establish a working group of the whole, to be chaired by Richard Arbeiter (Canada), to consider the substance of the mandate entrusted to the Committee by the General Assembly.

9. The composition of the Committee at its substantive session of 2023 is contained in the annex to the present report. The list of documents for the session is contained in [A/AC.121/2023/INF/2](#) and the list of participants in [A/AC.121/2023/INF/4](#).

#### **E. Proceedings of the Committee**

10. At its 274th and 275th meetings, on 21 February, the Committee held a general debate on a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects. Statements were made by the representatives of Morocco (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Mexico), Djibouti (on behalf of the Group of Francophone Ambassadors to the United Nations), Indonesia (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Australia (also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand), the European Union, Mexico, Thailand, the Philippines, Ethiopia, Uruguay, South Africa, Israel, Nepal, Togo, Senegal, Timor-Leste, Guatemala, the Republic of Moldova, Japan, Malaysia, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Pakistan, Ecuador, the United States of America, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Bangladesh, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, Fiji, Norway, Lebanon, Viet Nam, Eritrea, the Gambia, Chile, the United Arab Emirates, El Salvador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Peru, China, Switzerland, Argentina, India, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Brazil, Ukraine, Türkiye, Sri Lanka, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

11. Statements were also made by the observers for the Holy See, the African Union and the International Organization of la Francophonie.

12. On 23 February, the Working Group of the Whole heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support and the Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, who also engaged in an interactive dialogue with delegations.

13. On 24 February, the Working Group heard a briefing by and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the Assistant Secretary-General for Africa.

14. The Working Group of the Whole and its two sub-working groups met from 27 February to 17 March and concluded their work on draft recommendations.



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**Chapter III****Consideration of the draft report of the Working Group of the Whole**

15. At its 276th meeting, on 17 March, the Committee considered the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole and decided to include them in the present report (see paras. 17–215) for consideration by the General Assembly.

## **Chapter IV**

### **Adoption of the report to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session**

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its draft report to the General Assembly, as introduced and orally revised by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

## Chapter V

### Proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee

#### A. Introduction

17. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, in making its recommendations, reaffirms the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

18. The Special Committee pays tribute to the men and women who have served and continue to serve in peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage. Particular tribute is due to those who have given their lives for the maintenance of peace and security.

19. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of 29 May, the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, as providing an occasion to pay tribute on an annual basis at the Memorial to the Fallen (also known as the “United Nations Peacekeepers Memorial”) to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage, and to honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in serving the cause of peace. In this regard, the Special Committee recommends the establishment, through voluntary contributions, of a memorial wall at the United Nations Peacekeepers Memorial at Headquarters and requests that due consideration be given to the modalities involved, including the recording of the names of those who have made the supreme sacrifice.

20. The Special Committee reaffirms that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the United Nations, in accordance with the Charter, and affirms that United Nations peacekeeping is one of the key instruments available to the United Nations in discharging that responsibility. The Special Committee, as the only United Nations forum mandated to comprehensively review the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, including measures aimed at enhancing the capacity of the Organization to conduct United Nations peacekeeping operations, is uniquely able to make a significant contribution in the area of issues and policy relating to United Nations peacekeeping operations. It encourages other United Nations bodies, funds and programmes to avail themselves of the Special Committee’s particular perspective on United Nations peacekeeping operations. Thus, the Special Committee, as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, recalls that its recommendations and conclusions reflect, first and foremost, its unique peacekeeping expertise.

21. Noting the continued efforts of United Nations peacekeeping in various parts of the world, which requires the participation of Member States in various activities, the Special Committee considers it essential for the United Nations to be able to maintain international peace and security effectively. This calls for, among other things, improved capacity to assess conflict situations, effective planning and management of United Nations peacekeeping operations and quick and effective responses to any Security Council mandate.

22. The Special Committee stresses the importance of consistently applying the principles and standards it has set forth for the establishment and conduct of United Nations peacekeeping operations and emphasizes the need to continue to consider those principles, as well as definitions of peacekeeping, in a systematic fashion. New proposals or conditions concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations should be the subject of thorough consideration in the Special Committee.

23. The Special Committee, acknowledging the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the direction and control of United Nations peacekeeping operations, requests the Secretariat to provide, at the start of its substantive session, an informal briefing, especially with regard to operational field issues, including the Secretariat's assessment of developments in ongoing United Nations peacekeeping operations.

24. The Special Committee recalls that United Nations peacekeeping is conducted in accordance with the relevant chapters of the Charter. In this regard, nothing in the present report circumscribes the primary responsibility of the Security Council for maintaining or restoring international peace and security.

25. The Special Committee recalls its previous reports and reaffirms that each of their recommendations remain valid unless they are superseded by recommendations contained in the present report.

## **B. Guiding principles, definitions and implementation of mandates**

26. The Special Committee stresses that peacekeeping operations should strictly observe the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. It emphasizes that respect for the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the national jurisdiction of any State is crucial to common efforts, including peacekeeping operations, to promote international peace and security.

27. The Special Committee believes that respect for the basic principles of peacekeeping, such as the consent of the parties, impartiality and the non-use of force except in self-defence and in the defence of a mandate authorized by the Security Council, is essential to its success.

28. The Special Committee is of the view that peacekeeping operations should not be used as a substitute for addressing the root causes of conflict. Those causes should be addressed in a coherent, well-planned, coordinated and comprehensive manner, using political, social and developmental instruments. Consideration should be given to the ways in which those efforts can continue without interruption after the departure of a peacekeeping operation so as to ensure a smooth transition to lasting peace and security and development.

29. The Special Committee continues to stress the importance of providing peacekeeping operations with clearly defined mandates, objectives and command structures, adequate resources based on a realistic assessment of the situation and secure financing in support of efforts to achieve peaceful solutions to conflicts. It also stresses the need to ensure, in the formulation and implementation of mandates, adequate resources and congruity among mandates, resources and realizable objectives. The Special Committee emphasizes that, when changes are made in an existing mandate, commensurate changes should be made in the resources available to a peacekeeping operation for carrying out its new mandate. Changes in the mandate of an ongoing mission should be based on a thorough and timely reassessment by the Security Council, in consultation with troop-contributing countries through the mechanisms prescribed in Council resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#) and the note by the President of the Council of 14 January 2002 ([S/2002/56](#)).

30. The Special Committee stresses that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, pursuant to Article 24 of the Charter.

31. The Special Committee stresses the need to ensure the unity of command of United Nations peacekeeping operations. It recalls that the overall political direction

and control of United Nations peacekeeping operations are within the purview of the Security Council.

## C. Conduct of peacekeepers and peacekeeping operations

### General context

32. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on conduct of peacekeepers and peacekeeping operations of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 ([A/75/19](#)) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the present report.

33. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussions in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

### Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

34. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding the conduct of peacekeepers and peacekeeping operations to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

(a) Environmental policy for peacekeeping operations and field-based special political missions (2022);

(b) Waste Management Handbook for Peacekeeping Operations and field-based Special Political Missions (2022);

(c) United Nations Environmental Management Handbook for Military Commanders in United Nations Peace Operations (2021);

(d) Water and Wastewater Manual for Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions in the Context of Field Operations (2021);

(e) Standard operating procedure on boards of inquiry (2020);

(f) Standard operating procedures on the prevention, investigation and prosecution of serious crimes committed against United Nations personnel in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2020);

(g) Secretary-General's bulletin on the environmental policy for the United Nations Secretariat ([ST/SGB/2019/7](#));

(h) Standard operating procedure on environmental impact assessment for United Nations field missions (2019);

(i) Secretary-General's bulletin on addressing discrimination, harassment, including sexual harassment, and abuse of authority ([ST/SGB/2019/8](#));

(j) Policy on accountability for conduct and discipline in field missions (2015);

(k) Human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces (2011);

(l) Standard operating procedure on the implementation of amendments on conduct and discipline in the model memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and troop-contributing countries (2011);

- (m) Environmental policy for United Nations field missions (2009);
- (n) Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse ([ST/SGB/2003/13](#));
- (o) Secretary-General's bulletin on Regulations Governing the Status, Basic Rights and Duties of Officials other than Secretariat Officials, and Experts on Mission ([ST/SGB/2002/9](#));
- (p) Secretary-General's bulletin on observance by United Nations forces of international humanitarian law ([ST/SGB/1999/13](#)).

### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

35. The Special Committee requests that the Secretariat work closely with Member States and mission leadership to raise awareness in missions and during predeployment and in-mission training of misconduct reporting mechanisms, including by providing information about conduct and discipline units, hotlines and resources for staff to access advice on how to report all categories of misconduct. The Special Committee encourages further efforts to provide simple and practical training materials for making the various legal instruments more accessible and understandable to the individual peacekeeper and urges senior mission leadership to issue consistent guidance on all levels of peacekeeping operations. In addition, the Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to ensure the dissemination and awareness of the United Nations policy on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations across the United Nations system.

36. The Special Committee stresses that any form of misconduct towards United Nations personnel in the workplace is unacceptable. The Special Committee therefore requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on compliance with the conduct portion of memorandums of understanding between troop- and police-contributing countries and the United Nations before its next substantive session. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to acknowledge compliance with the United Nations code of conduct and to recognize when uniformed and civilian personnel uphold the values of the United Nations code of conduct in an exemplary manner.

37. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to ensure that all categories of United Nations personnel are held to the same standard of conduct so as to preserve the credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations. The Special Committee reiterates its request to the Secretariat to ensure that all data related to the conduct and discipline of military, police and corrections personnel, including regarding any remedial actions taken, are incorporated into deployment decisions, including force generation. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to ensure that civilian personnel who have committed sexual exploitation and abuse are ineligible for future deployment, and calls upon the Secretariat to continue to use the ClearCheck database for system-wide United Nations personnel recruitment and to provide an update ahead of its next session on options to further expand its use to include external partners across the peacekeeping, humanitarian and development sectors to prevent perpetrators from moving between organizations and sectors.

38. While recognizing distinct roles and responsibilities, the Special Committee reiterates its call upon the Secretariat and Member States to continue their efforts towards advancing a zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual exploitation and abuse. This includes preventive measures, investigating and holding perpetrators accountable in a timely and appropriate manner, addressing paternity claims, in line with national legislation, and providing support to victims through a victim-centred approach, in line with existing procedures. The Special Committee also underlines

the responsibility of mission leadership at all levels, including senior leadership, to identify, monitor and manage the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, including through the use of the sexual exploitation and abuse risk management toolkit. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to identify and mitigate possible sexual exploitation and abuse risks relevant to the situation and to improve coordination across peacekeeping, development and humanitarian actors in the field, including by working on policy in collaboration with the Victims' Rights Advocate.

39. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that Member States receive all information related to allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in a timely fashion and to assist Member States, where requested, in providing adequate training to their national investigation officers, including through the continuation of the training-of-trainers course for national investigation officers, so as to support investigations being conducted in line with best practices and existing procedures. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on progress made on the implementation of the zero-tolerance policy before its next substantive session, and encourages the Secretariat and Member States to continue to share lessons learned and best practices in addressing sexual exploitation and abuse within peacekeeping. This includes efforts taken by Member States to adopt or reinforce mechanisms and strengthen national legislation concerning investigation and criminal prosecution.

40. The Special Committee calls upon Member States deploying non-United Nations forces authorized under a Security Council mandate to adhere to the United Nations zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse. The Special Committee further calls upon Member States to take all appropriate steps to investigate allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse and to hold perpetrators accountable in a timely and appropriate manner. In this regard, the Committee additionally highlights the importance of providing support to victims, and also encourages the relevant authorities of non-United Nations personnel serving under a mandate of the Security Council to provide adequate assistance and victim-centred support to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by their personnel.

41. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat and Member States to continue to work together in addressing paternity claims to ensure that appropriate support is afforded to victims. The Special Committee further calls upon Member States to continue to look for solutions and share best practices with the Secretariat and other Member States.

42. The Special Committee underscores the importance of the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on all forms of sexual harassment, and urges the Secretariat and peacekeeping missions to provide all mission leaders and relevant officials responsible for investigation and discipline in United Nations missions with comprehensive sexual harassment training to ensure effective and appropriate responses to and investigations of claims. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat, troop- and police-contributing countries, as appropriate, and missions to improve measures to prevent sexual harassment, to investigate and hold perpetrators accountable in a timely manner, in line with the model memorandums of understanding, and to provide support to victims, including medical support, in line with the United Nations system model policy on sexual harassment. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to draw on lessons learned from addressing sexual exploitation and abuse cases when addressing sexual harassment cases, including lessons from the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate, training and reporting mechanisms. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on sexual harassment against peacekeepers.

43. The Special Committee reiterates that the responsibility for creating and maintaining a work environment that prevents all forms of misconduct must be part of individual performance objectives for all civilian staff, with a specific focus on senior leadership. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to include, in his next report, information on forms of misconduct other than sexual exploitation and abuse, as listed on the United Nations conduct and discipline website, in United Nations peacekeeping operations, including identified trends, risk factors and risk mitigation measures.

44. The Special Committee continues to recommend that the Secretariat ensure that mandatory, effective, monitored and targeted training on sexual exploitation and abuse is implemented. In pursuit of this aim, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that only contingents that have completed the mandatory submission of relevant certification to the Secretary-General, confirming that troop- and police-contributing countries have conducted relevant training and vetting of all personnel and that no personnel have been convicted of or are under investigation or prosecution for any criminal offence of a sexual nature, or any violation of international human rights law or international humanitarian law, are deployed. In addition, the Special Committee encourages missions to conduct regular in-field training, on-site evaluations and awareness-raising seminars, supplementary to the mandatory predeployment training on sexual exploitation and abuse, for troops, police, corrections personnel and civilians deployed to United Nations missions.

45. The Special Committee reiterates its call for the Secretariat to increase its efforts to implement the human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces, including through conducting risk assessments, adopting mission-specific standard operating procedures and the establishment of mission-level mechanisms. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat take appropriate steps to improve understanding of the role of the human rights due diligence policy and related guidance in supporting non-United Nations security forces so as to ensure consistent and effective implementation, and highlights that mission leadership is responsible for ensuring that they are consistently and rigorously applied across all relevant mission activity. Furthermore, it requests the Secretary-General, prior to its next substantive session, to provide an update on the implementation of the human rights due diligence policy and to address the challenges identified in the report of the Secretary-General.

46. The Special Committee notes the Human Rights screening procedure of the Secretariat for candidates applying for senior posts and urges the Secretariat to ensure procedural fairness by making the screening processes time-bound and communicating the outcome of such applications to nominating troop- and police-contributing countries.

47. The Special Committee reiterates the shared commitment of Member States to sound environmental practices and to employing environmentally responsible solutions for all operations and mandate delivery through, inter alia, the deployment of units trained in environmental awareness and of environmental focal points to fulfil their role in good environmental stewardship and the provision of capacity and expertise in environmental management, and requests the Secretariat to continue to develop specialized training materials for peacekeepers aimed at enhancing environmental awareness and practices at all levels. The Special Committee further encourages greater efforts to reduce the environmental footprints of missions in the field, including through the use of low- and zero-emission energy resources, renewable resources, clean technology and green solutions and the elimination of single-use plastics, where possible, and to promote the use of environmentally friendly material, in order to achieve more efficient use of energy and water, reduce waste production and usage of plastics, where applicable, encourage home-grown



environmental solutions, and improve the health, safety and security of local communities and United Nations personnel in order to leave a positive legacy in the field. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to implement measures to track and report non-renewable energy sources use and demand in missions to better facilitate planning for future renewable energy sources.

48. The Special Committee notes the progress made in the implementation of the multi-year environmental strategy to reduce the footprint of peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretariat to continue to work, together with Member States, to implement the environment strategy and to further develop it, in consultation with Member States, for the next period. The Special Committee also requests an update on its implementation before its next substantive session. Furthermore, the Special Committee notes that the transition to renewable energy in the field can bring multiple benefits, leaving a positive infrastructure legacy for host communities. In this regard, the Special Committee notes the Energy Compact Action Network, announced on the margins of the high-level dialogue on energy (during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly) to increase the use of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern sources, including renewable energy technologies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that donations in the form of renewable energy technologies are made in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework. The Special Committee notes the work done in the context of the compact in four peace operations, which could be extended to other peace operations, where and as appropriate, within existing resources, promoting cost effectiveness, as well as encouraging additional efforts aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of camps and missions.

## **D. Partnerships**

### **General context**

49. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on partnerships of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the present report.

50. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussion in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

### **Reference to relevant United Nations guidance**

51. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding partnerships to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

(a) United Nations Manual for the Generation and Deployment of Military and Formed Police Units to Peace Operations (2021);

(b) Manual on Policies and Procedures concerning the Reimbursement and Control of Contingent-Owned Equipment of Troop/Police Contributors Participating in Peacekeeping Missions (2020) (A/75/121);

(c) United Nations Military Engineer Unit and Counter-explosive Threat (CET) Search and Detect Manual (2020);

(d) United Nations Procurement Manual (2020);

(e) Guidelines on mandated programmatic activities funded through peacekeeping assessed budgets (2017);

(f) Human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces (2011).

### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

52. The Special Committee stresses the need for continued efforts to foster cooperation between the host government and United Nations peacekeeping missions to support a common understanding of the United Nations mandate and capacities.

53. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue engagements with regional and subregional and relevant international organizations to strengthen partnerships, with an emphasis on regional and subregional dynamics, best practices and lessons learned, coherent planning and operational complementarity at the field level, so as to ensure mutual understanding of the opportunities and challenges for collaboration in peace operations.

54. The Special Committee continues to encourage increased partnership and cooperation among United Nations peacekeeping missions, United Nations special political missions, United Nations country teams, other relevant United Nations agencies in the field and other relevant actors, in all phases of peacekeeping operations, including through more systematic application of the United Nations Policy on Integrated Assessment and Planning, as well as joint platforms such as the Global Focal Point arrangement and the Transitions Joint Team, by pursuing a whole-of-mission approach. The Special Committee recommends that this should include, where appropriate, joint strategic planning, the sharing of lessons learned and good practices, and coordinated engagement with the host country, and emphasizes that close coordination is of particular importance ahead of and during transitions.

55. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to utilize innovative approaches such as smart pledging, co-deployments and multinational rotations, as well as partnerships generated through the light coordination mechanism and regional training and capacity-building networks, and capture and implement best practices and lessons learned from these approaches. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat and Member States to incrementally expand light coordination mechanism efforts to strengthen information-sharing and facilitate training and capacity-building partnerships, resulting in direct coordination between all stakeholders. The Special Committee also encourages Member States to continue to provide extrabudgetary funding for this expansion and the use of the light coordination mechanism and to align its efforts with needs identified in the paper on uniformed capability requirements produced by the Secretariat, including with respect to policing needs. In this regard, the Special Committee acknowledges the role played by relevant national peacekeeping training centres in delivering specific training programmes.

56. The Special Committee takes note of the efforts undertaken by Member States to establish regional cooperation networks to promote collaboration on preparation, financing, equipment, deployment and sustainment in the field of peacekeeping, carried out with the support of the Secretariat through its light coordination mechanism, and welcomes the first Latin American and Caribbean conference on United Nations peacekeeping operations, which was held in Lima, Peru, in September 2022. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to work with Member States, including interested troop- and police-contributing countries, to continue efforts to promote the establishment of regional cooperation networks in other regions, such as Asia and the Pacific, in 2023.

57. The Special Committee welcomes further advancement of the triangular partnership programme, including the completion of training courses and the development and implementation of in-person, remote and hybrid engineering, medical and United Nations C4ISR Academy for Peace Operations training for uniformed personnel, as well as the introduction of telemedicine in peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat and relevant stakeholders, including Member States, as appropriate, to continue to expand the programme, including through the provision of training and equipment, and to conduct further needs analysis to ascertain evolving training and capability gaps and required skills for partnered peacekeeping deployments. In order to further enhance the effectiveness of the triangular partnership programme, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continuously engage with missions to ensure that triangular partnership programme activities are well aligned with mission-level requirements and help to improve the performance of peacekeeping operations. In this regard, the Special Committee also encourages Member States to continue to provide extrabudgetary funding, trainers, equipment and other in-kind support to the key peacekeeping-enabling areas, including but not limited to engineering, field medicine, environmental and communication capabilities, C4ISR and camp security technologies, and telemedicine.

58. The Special Committee commends the progress made and continues to encourage greater collaboration between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in peace operations, including through the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations (2021–2025) in the areas of, among others, training and capacity-building, including the triangular partnership programme, the sharing of best practices and increasing women's participation in peacekeeping. The Special Committee encourages further collaboration between the United Nations and ASEAN on strengthening the ASEAN Peacekeeping Centres Network, including through the sharing of lessons learned, such as from United Nations cooperation with regional organizations, best practices and capacity-building.

59. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to work with the African Union, African subregional organizations and relevant troop- and police-contributing countries to capture best practices and operational lessons learned from African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Security Council in order to identify areas of complementarity and comparative advantage.

60. The Special Committee takes note of the current level of cooperation and coordination between the League of Arab States and the United Nations in the area of peacekeeping, welcomes the opening of a United Nations liaison office, and encourages the Secretariat to strengthen the mechanisms of cooperation with the League of Arab States, on the same model as for other regional organizations. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing to the Committee on the latest developments in this partnership and to propose options for its reinforcement.

61. The Special Committee again stresses that all Member States must pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions. It reaffirms the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly, bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963.

62. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of ensuring the timely reimbursement of troop- and police-contributing countries for their peacekeeping contributions. In this regard, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat to ensure the rapid processing and payment of reimbursements, mindful of the adverse effects of such delays on the capacities of troop- and police-contributing countries to sustain their participation.

63. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to facilitate partnerships among Member States to explore practical funding mechanisms to meet the increasing peacekeeping training requirements, and requests the Secretariat to address any identified shortfalls in mission-specific peacekeeping training.

64. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to strengthen engagements with national, regional and international peacekeeping centres and e-learning institutes in the areas of training, education and research. The Special Committee also encourages Member States to utilize United Nations training materials, requests the Secretariat to expedite the process of providing accreditation to Member States for relevant courses, and encourages Member States to consider providing extrabudgetary funding for this purpose. The Special Committee welcomes close collaboration between the United Nations and regional peacekeeping training networks and initiatives, including the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres, and encourages collaboration among these centres to coordinate training opportunities, including for women peacekeepers.

65. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that troop- and police-contributing countries are consulted and provided in a transparent manner with factual information to ensure a timely, efficient and effective transfer of essential roles and responsibilities when responding to changes in the mandate, including inter-mission deployments, and in terms of the corresponding memorandum of understanding.

66. The Special Committee reiterates its request to the Secretariat to continue to ensure the fair representation of troop- and police-contributing countries at all professional levels, including staff and senior positions, at United Nations Headquarters and in the field, on the basis of transparent and competency-based recruitment processes within target timelines. The Special Committee requests regular updates in the form of a briefing prior to its substantive sessions, with data from the Secretariat on the representation of troop- and police-contributing countries.

### **United Nations-African Union cooperation**

#### **Reference to relevant United Nations guidance**

67. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding United Nations-African Union cooperation to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

(a) Joint declaration on cooperation for African Union peace support operations (2018);

(b) Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security (2017).

#### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

68. The Special Committee commends the crucial role of the African Union and African subregional organizations and arrangements in efforts to prevent, mediate and settle conflicts on the African continent, and their contribution to peacekeeping efforts

in the region, particularly in dangerous environments where unconventional threats exist. The Special Committee welcomes the close cooperation on peace and security between the United Nations and the African Union, in line with the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, and further expresses its support for the efforts of the two organizations to further develop a sustainable, more systematic and strategic partnership adapted to the complex security challenges facing the continent, in particular for conflict prevention and capacity-building. The Special Committee recognizes that the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union remains vital to achieving the peacekeeping mandates of missions deployed in Africa, including by providing technical support to the African-led peace support operations and facilitating and supporting political processes and other mandated tasks. The Special Committee welcomes the progress made by the African Union on the revised framework for compliance and accountability with respect to international humanitarian and human rights law, notes the tripartite project in support of the African Union Compliance Framework, and requests the Secretariat to render its full support to this process and to provide a briefing to the Special Committee on the progress made before its next substantive session. The Special Committee welcomes the adoption of the African Union doctrine on peace support operations, and further welcomes its policies on conduct and discipline and on prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse. The Special Committee welcomes the progress towards the full operationalization of the African Standby Force and its enablers, and notes the decisions of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to review and reconceptualize the African Standby Force concept with a view to ensuring its alignment with the African Union doctrine on peace support operations.

69. The Special Committee acknowledges the sustained commitment and efforts of the African Union and its member States in establishing and operationalizing the Peace Fund of the African Union.

70. The Special Committee, recognizing that cooperation with African regional and subregional organizations in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations will improve collective security, acknowledges the development of peace support operations mandated or authorized by the African Union. The Special Committee, while recognizing that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the Security Council of the United Nations, in this regard acknowledges the efforts of the African Union and its member States to contribute to peace and security responses through African Union peace support operations. The Special Committee further acknowledges the sustained commitment and efforts of the African Union and its member States towards, inter alia, self-financing the African Union peace support operations in Africa while enhancing partnerships with relevant international institutions and partners, including through voluntary contributions, and also recognizes that regional organizations have the responsibility to secure financial resources for their organizations in a transparent manner. The Special Committee recognizes that ad hoc and unpredictable financing arrangements for African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Security Council and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter may impact the effectiveness of these peace support operations. The Special Committee encourages all stakeholders to redouble efforts to explore practical steps that can be taken, and the conditions necessary, to establish the mechanism through which African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Security Council and under the authority of the Security Council under Chapter VIII of the Charter could be partly financed through United Nations assessed contributions, on a case-by-case basis, in compliance with relevant agreed standards and mechanisms to ensure strategic and

financial oversight and accountability, and taking into account the work undertaken by the Secretariat and the African Union Commission in this regard.

71. The Special Committee recognizes the progress made by African countries, the African Union and subregional organizations in conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. The Special Committee calls for strengthened coordination among all relevant partners, in particular the United Nations, the African Union and subregional organizations, in addressing these challenges. The Special Committee encourages closer coordination and cooperation between the Peacebuilding Commission and the African Union, in line with national peacebuilding priorities and home-grown solutions and guided by the principles of national ownership and meaningful partnerships with subregional and regional organizations.

72. The Special Committee encourages the United Nations to sustain efforts to strengthen the capabilities and capacities of African Union-led operations, including by maintaining technical and material support and, where mandated, financial support, as well as to support the operational readiness of the African Standby Force, consistent with the applicable strategic workplans, including but not limited to hosting equipment, supporting the development of African Union logistical capacity, sharing expertise and exchanging knowledge.

73. The Special Committee welcomes the sixteenth annual joint consultative meeting between the members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and the Security Council of the United Nations, held in New York in October 2022, takes note of the joint communiqué, and further notes the sixth United Nations-African Union annual conference gathering the leadership of the two organizations, held in Addis Ababa on 1 December 2022, during which mutual support between United Nations and African Union peace support operations was discussed.

74. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat and the African Union Commission to ensure that efforts on peacekeeping operations continue to further develop consultative decision-making, financial management and African Union compliance frameworks, in line with the 2018 joint declaration on cooperation for African Union peace support operations.

75. The Special Committee encourages the United Nations and the African Union to continue their cooperation, especially in the areas of capacity-building and training, joint peace analysis, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, security sector reform and mine action.

76. The Special Committee recommends the full implementation of the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security to ensure deepening a systematic and strategic partnership between the two organizations with a view to strengthening and implementing policies, procedures and capacities in order to advance political solutions to conflict in Africa, and improve peacekeeping on the continent, including with respect to the areas of activity set out in the joint declaration of the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission of 6 December 2018.

77. The Special Committee recognizes the increased partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on a range of issues and notes the summary by the Secretary-General of the 2020 independent strategic assessment of the United Nations-African Union partnership and the work of the United Nations Office to the African Union, and encourages the implementation of the recommendations. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat of the United Nations and the African Union Commission continue to provide support to facilitate enhanced cooperation and collaboration between the Security Council of the United Nations and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union on issues of peace and

security in Africa, based on their respective comparative advantages and building on the annual joint consultative meetings between the members of the Security Council of the United Nations and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.

78. The Special Committee welcomes the development of the African Union doctrine on peace support operations and of the African Union Compliance and Accountability Framework for Peace Support Operations, and encourages their implementation.

79. The Special Committee underscores the importance of predictable, sustainable and flexible financing for African Union-led peace support operations through African Union and United Nations contributions, including the use of United Nations assessed contributions, in line with Security Council resolutions [2320 \(2016\)](#) and [2378 \(2017\)](#). The Special Committee requests that efforts continue to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing for African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Security Council, and under the authority of the Security Council consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter.

80. The Special Committee notes the forthcoming report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on progress made thus far by the United Nations and the African Union to fulfil the commitments as set out in Security Council resolutions [2320 \(2016\)](#) and [2378 \(2017\)](#) and recommendations on moving forward that reflect good practices and lessons learned with a view to securing predictable, sustainable and flexible resources for African peace support operations.

## **E. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace**

### **General context**

81. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on peacebuilding and sustaining peace of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 ([A/75/19](#)) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the present report.

82. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussions in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

### **Reference to relevant United Nations guidance**

83. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding peacebuilding and sustaining peace to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

- (a) Policy on the functions and organization of the Standing Police Capacity (2021);
- (b) Policy on the functions and organization of the United Nations Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity (2021);
- (c) Standard operating procedure on community violence reduction in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes (2021);
- (d) Standard operating procedure on monitoring and evaluation for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (2021);

- (e) United Nations community engagement guidelines on peacebuilding and sustaining peace (2020);
- (f) Guidelines for specialized police teams on assignment with United Nations peace operations (2019);
- (g) Guide for senior leadership on field entity closure (2019);
- (h) Integrated Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration Standards (2019);
- (i) Effective Weapons and Ammunition Management in a Changing Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Context: Handbook for United Nations Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Practitioners (2018);
- (j) Policy on integrated assessment and planning (2023);
- (k) Guidelines on quick-impact projects (2017);
- (l) Guidelines on mandated programmatic activities funded through peacekeeping assessed budgets (2017);
- (m) Manual on police monitoring, mentoring and advising in peace operations (2017);
- (n) Policy on justice support in United Nations peace operations (2016);
- (o) Guidelines on police capacity-building and development (2015);
- (p) Policy on prison support in United Nations peace operations (2015);
- (q) Policy on United Nations Police in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2014);
- (r) Standard operating procedures for Government-provided corrections personnel on assignment with United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2014);
- (s) Guidelines on reinsertion programmes (2014);
- (t) Policy on reinsertion programmes (2014);
- (u) Policy on United Nations transitions in the context of mission drawdown or withdrawal (2013);
- (v) Prison Incident Management Handbook (2013);
- (w) Policy on defence sector reform (2011);
- (x) Policy on human rights in United Nations peace operations and political missions (2011).

#### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

84. The Special Committee continues to encourage the Secretariat to plan for United Nations mission transitions as integrated within the wider country-specific transition to peace and to elaborate transition strategies early, well before the drawdown of a peacekeeping mandate, informed by stakeholders at all levels, and to reassess periodically during the lifetime of a mission, in accordance with each peacekeeping mission's respective mandate. The Special Committee calls for engagement at the earliest possible stage, as appropriate, in integrated planning and coordination on transitions with the resident coordinator and the United Nations country team, in close coordination with the host State authorities and all other national stakeholders, including civil society, and international financial institutions, where appropriate, along with early engagement on the gradual handover, where appropriate, of



responsibilities to national authorities, including by conducting regular joint assessments of progress in developing the relevant capacities and capabilities of host State institutions. The Special Committee also encourages the Secretariat to strengthen policies and procedures to ensure the preservation and timely transfer of knowledge, data and capacities to successor entities, resident coordinators and United Nations country teams during peacekeeping transitions. The Special Committee also requests the Secretariat to organize a briefing on lessons learned from past transitions, and encourages the Secretariat to strengthen the implementation and further development of relevant United Nations transition policies and directives. The Special Committee also urges the Secretariat and its field missions to utilize lessons learned from transitions and to continue to develop and implement coordination mechanisms for field missions and United Nations country teams in order for them to work closely together on joint objectives and priorities prior to transitions, including by strengthening connections with existing planning processes, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and common country analyses, and with the work of the wider peacebuilding architecture, notably the Peacebuilding Commission, as appropriate.

85. The Special Committee calls upon peacekeeping missions, United Nations country teams and all relevant peacebuilding stakeholders to ensure that their activities are aligned with priorities and strategies identified by national Governments and authorities. In this regard, the Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to ensure that peacekeeping operations, where and as mandated, assist national actors in addressing the root causes of conflict, which may include supporting national actors to develop their capacities by building effective institutions at all levels to deliver basic services, create economic opportunities for their populations and implement necessary rule of law and governance reform.

86. The Special Committee recognizes the efforts of peacekeeping operations to provide support to host country authorities to contain the ongoing effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, where mandated, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to implement lessons learned in future global health emergencies, in particular medical evacuations, and in the facilitation of humanitarian access, including to internally displaced persons and refugees, where and as mandated.

87. Recognizing that strengthening representative, responsive and accountable host State rule of law capacities and institutions, in line with host State priorities, to provide citizen security and equal access to justice is critical for peacebuilding and sustaining peace, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to optimize coordination both among all mission components and between peacekeeping missions and United Nations country teams in their planning processes, particularly in the context of mission transitions. The Special Committee further encourages Member States and the Secretariat to better equip missions and strengthen mandates in support of host State authorities, to establish representative, responsive and accountable rule of law and security sector institutions, ensuring the security and justice needs of the entire population and the development of sustainable capacities of national rule of law and security institutions for them to be able to fulfil their responsibilities, notably through national processes and dialogue, including support for comprehensive rule of law institutions and security sector reform processes that contribute to ongoing peace and reconciliation efforts. The Special Committee further encourages the Secretariat and United Nations missions to continue to enhance coordination with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes with respect to assistance regarding the rule of law and security sector reform in the field and at Headquarters, including through the Inter-Agency Security Sector Reform Task Force.

88. The Special Committee encourages the continued consideration of a rule of law perspective in mission mandates, as appropriate, and encourages Member States to

support the assessment, restoration and enhancement, where applicable, of representative, responsive and accountable host State rule of law and security institutions and capacities, from the very beginning of a United Nations peacekeeping operation and during the whole conflict cycle. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to support such efforts by drawing on its specialized expertise in the rule of law and security institutions area, including its rapidly deployable standing capacities in police, justice, corrections, security sector reform, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and mine action, as well as the Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of predeployment training for all deployed police and corrections officers, and further encourages the Secretariat, in cooperation with Member States, to implement the relevant guidelines related to supporting host nation policing expertise, including by ensuring broad participation of police-contributing countries in the deployment of specialized police teams, and police and corrections officers, trained in capacity-building to support security sector reform and the rule of law, when and as mandated.

89. The Special Committee requests the Police Division to provide regular reporting on the work of the specialized police teams and analysis of the results achieved by specialized police teams deployed thus far, including assessing the lessons learned from the current work with a view to developing the concept further and revising the policy and practical guidance accordingly, in close consultation with police-contributing countries.

90. The Special Committee, while recognizing that it is host States that lead efforts to ensure that the needs and participation of all segments of society, in particular women and young people, are taken into account in building and sustaining peace, emphasizes that inclusivity is key for more successful and sustainable solutions, and notes that mediation, conflict prevention and resolution efforts are more successful and sustainable when they are inclusive. In this respect, the Special Committee continues to encourage the Secretariat, peacekeeping missions and United Nations country teams to support national authorities in their efforts, including by promoting the inclusion and engagement of all segments of the population in the implementation of peacekeeping mandates through consultative processes and, where mandated, in enhancing their capacities to engage in the process of peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Recognizing the role of young people in preventing and resolving conflicts and in sustaining peace, the Special Committee supports enhanced partnership with relevant United Nations entities, regional organizations and civil society in order to enhance the capacities of youth in the field of peace and security. The Special Committee takes note of the development of the United Nations community engagement guidelines on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and requests that the Secretariat, in its next report to the Special Committee, continue to include updates on the engagement of local communities by field missions and the impact that this has had on the delivery of missions' objectives. The Special Committee further requests the Secretary-General to provide guidance to peacekeeping operations on how missions can better support community-based mechanisms with a view to supporting sustainable political solutions, where mandated.

91. The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution [76/305](#), noting the progress made in financing for peacebuilding by the entire United Nations system while recognizing that financing for peacebuilding remains a critical challenge, and noting the General Assembly's affirmed commitment to consider all options for adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding, including through voluntary, innovative and assessed funding and other means of resource mobilization, and notes the significance non-monetary contributions can play in peacebuilding efforts. The Special Committee underscores the importance of transition finance plans established at an early stage, and stresses the importance of sufficient funding to

support peacebuilding activities during transitions and throughout the life cycle of peacekeeping operations, especially in the period immediately after their departure or reconfiguration. The Special Committee further encourages all Member States and other partners to consider increasing their contributions to peacebuilding and sustaining peace activities in conflict-affected countries and regions, and stresses the importance of multi-year, flexible and risk-tolerant funding commitments, including pooled funding. The Special Committee further encourages efforts to mobilize public resources, foster South-South and triangular cooperation, spur private investment and explore innovative financing mechanisms for peacebuilding.

92. The Special Committee underlines the critical contribution that programmatic activities can make to the implementation of peacekeeping mandates, including mission transitions, and underlines that all such activities must be directly linked to mandates. The Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on programmatic activities, including the mechanism of planning, implementation and monitoring, information on existing implementing partners, and the evaluation of the impact of those activities on mandate implementation. The Special Committee also requests the Secretariat to incorporate, in its analysis to the Security Council, an assessment of the risks to peacekeeping personnel while undertaking programmatic activities and recommendations on the way forward.

93. The Special Committee encourages relevant peacekeeping operations to continue the implementation, in accordance with United Nations guidance, of quick-impact projects, and reaffirms their critical role in building confidence between a mission and the local population and in improving the environment for the effective implementation of the mission's mandates and the establishment of peace processes.

94. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to incorporate, in its analyses submitted to the Security Council, the progress in and quality of delivering on the political and operational aspects of a mission's mandate in a coherent manner; the risks and challenges faced by national and local authorities in building and sustaining peace and implementing comprehensive national plans, policies or strategies to protect civilians, where applicable; and the mission's role in support of national ownership of the political processes.

95. The Special Committee reiterates its call upon the Secretariat to strengthen coordination and coherence between host governments, United Nations peacekeeping operations, United Nations country teams, the Peacebuilding Commission, donor countries, relevant regional and subregional organizations and other relevant actors, including international and regional financial institutions, in order to improve the planning and delivery of peacebuilding support in line with nationally owned priorities and needs. In this regard, the Special Committee recommends that peacekeeping missions, in coordination with host governments, should pursue early engagement with all relevant actors on transition planning, including with respect to ensuring that the mission and all other United Nations actors have a sound understanding of the host State's long-term development plans and needs, including with respect to economic stability. The Special Committee also encourages the Secretariat to place more emphasis on supporting host State priorities aimed at preventing the further outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict, including through making available its capacities for providing support in non-mission settings.

96. The Special Committee reiterates its call upon the Peacebuilding Commission to ensure that specific, strategic and targeted advice to the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council promotes a coherent, coordinated, integrated and strategic approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, including in peacekeeping and transition settings. In particular, noting the Security Council's acknowledgment of the importance of strong coordination, coherence and

cooperation with the Peacebuilding Commission and its expressed intent in a presidential statement dated 21 December 2017 (S/PRST/2017/27) to regularly request, deliberate on and draw upon the specific, strategic and targeted advice of the Peacebuilding Commission, including to assist with the longer-term perspective required for peacebuilding being reflected in the formation, review and drawdown of peace operations, the Special Committee continues to encourage the Commission, in formulating its written advice to the Security Council, as appropriate, and in accordance with their respective mandates, to mainstream feedback coming from host States with a view to fostering a more coherent, inclusive and nationally owned approach to peacebuilding in peacekeeping and transition settings and the field in terms of implementation challenges with respect to peacebuilding and transition processes in the mandate renewal and future planning cycles.

97. The Special Committee encourages continued efforts towards strengthened partnership and strategic cooperation between the United Nations and international financial institutions at the Headquarters and field levels, consideration of joint initiative and analysis, where applicable, and shared priority-setting towards collective outcomes, complementarity and coordination in implementation, in line with host States' priorities. The Special Committee strongly encourages the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to fully utilize its role to convene United Nations bodies, Member States, national authorities and all other relevant stakeholders to ensure an integrated, strategic, coherent and coordinated approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to strengthen engagement with relevant regional and subregional organizations, in particular the African Union and its post-conflict reconstruction and development centre, as well as the regional and international financial institutions such as the African Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

98. The Special Committee encourages greater coherence on peacebuilding issues between the Peacebuilding Commission and other relevant United Nations bodies, including the Special Committee.

99. The Special Committee recognizes that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration efforts, where mandated, can have an important role in political settlements and mediation, notably with regard to local dispute settlement, which have often contributed to progress in national and political peace processes. The Special Committee, taking note of report of the Secretary-General on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (A/77/610), encourages the implementation of new gender-sensitive and inclusive disarmament, demobilization and reintegration initiatives to assist governments and regional organizations, including through community violence reduction projects and transitional weapons and ammunition management aimed at mitigating the negative impact of armed groups by preventing recruitment into such groups, supporting individuals who voluntarily leave such groups and mitigating access to weapons and ammunition, thus contributing to the establishment of a protective environment. The Special Committee also acknowledges that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration requires political attention and long-term assistance in line with host States' priorities until the reintegration of ex-combatants is sustainably established.

## **F. Performance and accountability**

### **General context**

100. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter

on performance and accountability of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 ([A/75/19](#)) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the present report.

101. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussions in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

#### **Reference to relevant United Nations guidance**

102. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding performance and accountability to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

- (a) Integrated Peacekeeping Performance and Accountability Framework (2022);
- (b) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Unit Manual (2022);
- (c) Standard operating procedure for Member State-provided mobile training teams (2022);
- (d) Administrative instruction on evaluation in the United Nations Secretariat (2021) ([ST/AI/2021/3](#));
- (e) Guide on COVID-19 aviation-related containment strategies for prevention and mitigation (2021);
- (f) Guidelines on conducting peacekeeping training needs assessments (2021);
- (g) Standard operating procedure on assessment for mission service of individual police officers (2021);
- (h) Standard operating procedure on the handling of detention in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2021);
- (i) Strategy for the digital transformation of United Nations peacekeeping (2021);
- (j) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Aviation Unit Manual (2021);
- (k) Guide and instructions on patient transfer in United Nations contracted air operators in relation to COVID-19 (2020);
- (l) Manual on Policies and Procedures concerning the Reimbursement and Control of Contingent-Owned Equipment of Troop/Police Contributors Participating in Peacekeeping Missions (2020) ([A/75/121](#));
- (m) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Unit Manual (2020);
- (n) Policy on guidance development (2020);
- (o) Policy on knowledge management and organizational learning (2020);
- (p) Policy on joint mission analysis centres (2020);
- (q) United Nations Infantry Battalion Manual (2020);
- (r) United Nations Manual on Ammunition Management (2020);

- (s) United Nations Military Engineer Unit and Counter-explosive Threat (CET) Search and Detect Manual (2020);
- (t) Guidelines on combined military and police coordination mechanisms in peace operations (2019);
- (u) Guidelines on joint operations centres (2019);
- (v) Guidelines on special investigations (2019);
- (w) Guidelines on specialized police teams on assignment with United Nations peace operations (2019);
- (x) Guidelines on the award of risk premium (formed units) (2019);
- (y) Guidelines on the design, delivery and evaluation of training (2019);
- (z) Guidelines on the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (2019);
- (aa) Guidelines on the rapid deployment level of the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (2019);
- (bb) Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence Handbook (2019);
- (cc) Policy on authority, command and control in United Nations peacekeeping operations (2019);
- (dd) Policy on joint operations centres (2019);
- (ee) Policy on weapons and ammunition management (2019);
- (ff) Standard operating procedures on loss of weapons and ammunition (2019);
- (gg) Standard operating procedure on the assessment and evaluation of formed police unit performance (2019);
- (hh) Standard operating procedure on the assessment for mission service of individual police officers (2019);
- (ii) Guidelines on operational readiness preparation for troop-contributing countries in peacekeeping missions (2018);
- (jj) Secretary-General's bulletin on the delegation of authority in the administration of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the Financial Regulations and Rules ([ST/SGB/2019/2](#)) (2018);
- (kk) Standard operating procedure on contract performance reporting (2018);
- (ll) Secretary-General's bulletin on the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations ([ST/SGB/2013/4](#), [ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1](#), [ST/SGB/2015/4](#) and [ST/SGB/2015/4/Amend.1](#)) (2018));
- (mm) Guidelines on aviation safety assurance (2017);
- (nn) Guidelines on the use of force by military components in United Nations peacekeeping operations (2017);
- (oo) Policy on planning and review of peacekeeping operations (2017);
- (pp) Standard operating procedure on the assessment of operational capability of formed police units for service in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2017);
- (qq) Guidelines on police administration in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2016);

- (rr) Guidelines on police command in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2016);
- (ss) Policy on aviation safety (2016);
- (tt) Policy on formed police units in United Nations peacekeeping operations (2016);
- (uu) Policy on operational readiness assurance and performance improvement (2016);
- (vv) Policy on records management (2016);
- (ww) Standard operating procedures on evaluation of force headquarters in peacekeeping operations (2016);
- (xx) Standard operating procedures on force and sector commander's evaluation of subordinate military entities in peacekeeping operations (2016);
- (yy) Standard operating procedure on boards of inquiry (2016);
- (zz) Guidelines on police operations in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2015);
- (aaa) Policy on national support element (2015);
- (bbb) Guidelines on the mission concept (2014);
- (ccc) Manual on Surface Transport Management in the Field (2014);
- (ddd) Movement Control Manual (2014);
- (eee) Policy on internal evaluations and inspections of United Nations police (2014);
- (fff) United Nations Force Headquarters Handbook (2014);
- (ggg) Policy on Headquarters self-evaluation (2013);
- (hhh) Policy on military capability study (2013);
- (iii) Policy on mission evaluation (2013);
- (jjj) Policy on the functions and organization of the Standing Police Capacity (2013);
- (kkk) Policy on contract management (2012);
- (lll) Policy on human rights screening of United Nations personnel (2012);
- (mmm) United Nations aviation standards for peacekeeping and humanitarian air transport operations (2012);
- (nnn) Policy on civil-military coordination in United Nations integrated peacekeeping missions (2010);
- (ooo) Policy on training for all United Nations peacekeeping personnel (2010);
- (ppp) Policy on support to military and police predeployment training for United Nations peacekeeping operations (2009);
- (qqq) Standard operating procedure on training recognition (2009).

### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

103. The Special Committee welcomes efforts to establish a dedicated mission planning capability that is appropriately structured and empowered by mission leadership, as well as the development of a policy on mission planning units to

provide missions with new guidance on the establishment, management, roles and responsibilities of such units, to be developed in close coordination with Member States. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations to continue to ensure the involvement in integrated mission planning of all relevant personnel at the mission and sector levels, and incorporating, where appropriate, military, police, judicial, corrections, other civilian planners and the United Nations country team in order to conduct integrated strategic and operational planning, assessment and decision-making, and to work towards a shared set of indicators of progress against mandate implementation informed by data provided through the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System. The Special Committee strongly encourages the Secretariat to continue to provide updates on progress against these two objectives in advance of its next substantive session. Taking note of the challenge of limited planning capacity at the mission level, including at the field office level, the Special Committee encourages all peacekeeping stakeholders to provide the requisite capabilities and training to enable this, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to United Nations peacekeeping operations to enable more effective integrated planning and mandate delivery.

104. The Special Committee takes note of the promulgation and continued refinement of the Integrated Peacekeeping Performance and Accountability Framework, which outlines measures for accountability for civilian and uniformed personnel, as well as mission leadership, and further addresses factors beyond the control of troop- and police-contributing countries in a comprehensive approach to all aspects of peacekeeping performance, including political, mandating and resourcing aspects, such as the responsibilities of relevant peacekeeping stakeholders. The Special Committee encourages the dissemination of the framework to all United Nations peacekeepers, and encourages continued and clear communication concerning expected levels of performance. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat provide support and guidance to mission leadership to ensure that the full range of performance measures, including recognition of outstanding performance and remedial measures in cases of underperformance, in line with existing policies, are utilized appropriately as part of a comprehensive and objective methodology based on clear and well-defined benchmarks and assessments. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of continuing to centralize the collection of performance data, and requests the Secretariat to provide regular updates to Member States on implementation of the framework and the identified priority supporting projects.

105. The Special Committee recognizes the need to reward outstanding performance, and requests the Secretariat to establish a mechanism for recognizing the outstanding performance of military and police units. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of adopting mechanisms to reward the outstanding performance of individual uniformed personnel, including by considering the establishment of an additional medal. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to consult with Member States before the finalization of the guidance on the recognition of outstanding performance for military and police units and individual uniformed personnel and to provide an update on the development on these mechanisms prior to its next substantive session.

106. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to continue to assess instances of underperformance of all uniformed, civilian and Secretariat personnel supporting peacekeeping operations, at all levels, in a transparent manner. Such assessments should take into account political and operational aspects, including but not limited to: well-defined, realistic and achievable mandates, political will, leadership, performance and accountability at all levels, adequate resources, policy, planning,



operational guidelines, caveats that have a detrimental impact on mandate implementation and performance, and training.

107. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat and all missions to continually strengthen strategic and operational integration, specifically focusing on the full implementation across all mission components of planning, analysis, reporting and control mechanisms and arrangements at all levels in line with existing United Nations policy and doctrine. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide the Committee with a briefing on progress and challenges in this regard.

108. The Special Committee notes the roll-out of the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System in all peacekeeping operations, and recommends that the Secretariat, in collaboration with mission leadership, continue to monitor the ongoing implementation of the System in all United Nations peacekeeping operations, including increasing transparency in its reporting of analysis and recommendations to relevant Member States. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations, particularly mission leadership, to fully utilize data collected on integrated mission performance through the System to improve planning and reporting and to strengthen the evaluation of integrated mission performance, inclusive of civilian components, in delivering against standards, benchmarks and mandated objectives, as well as to use these data to support implementation of the Integrated Peacekeeping Performance and Accountability Framework and inform and further improve planning, resource allocation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders in delivering mandated tasks. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to provide a briefing to Member States, prior to its next session, on the ongoing implementation of the System and how the System is helping to improve peacekeeping missions' performance against mandated tasks. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that training is provided to missions on the use of the System.

109. The Special Committee takes note of the development and implementation of various situational awareness databases. In order to minimize the data management burden on missions, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to work towards a harmonization of these databases.

110. The Special Committee reiterates its call upon the Secretariat and missions to continue to improve the evaluation of mission civilian support and substantive components' contributions to mandate implementation. In this regard, the Special Committee requests the missions to incorporate feedback from missions' uniformed components on the performance of mission support into such evaluations. The Special Committee further stresses that the performance of the Secretariat in guiding and supporting missions' mandates should be assessed properly, in a transparent manner. The Special Committee continues to request the Secretariat provide a briefing, in advance of its next substantive session, on the activities of the peacekeeping operations client board and to share the evaluation of mission civilian support and substantive components' contributions to mandate implementation.

111. The Special Committee reaffirms the importance of avoiding all caveats that have a detrimental impact on mandate implementation and performance, and further requests all Member States to redouble all efforts to identify and clearly communicate any caveats or change in the status of caveats. The Special Committee expresses concern regarding undeclared caveats and their effect on operations. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the Secretariat finalize, without delay, a clear, comprehensive and transparent procedure on caveats, in consultation with Member States. The Special Committee suggests that the Secretariat note caveats that have a detrimental impact on mandate implementation and performance when selecting contingents.

112. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to continue to implement mission adaptation plans, when applicable, in close coordination with troop- and police-contributing countries.

113. The Special Committee notes the role of the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System as the primary entry point in the selection, assessment and deployment of troops and police peacekeeping contingents, welcomes the consistent fulfilment of force generation requirements from units already registered and assessed in the system, and underlines the continued importance of proper vetting of personnel, appropriate predeployment training and predeployment visits to ensure that United Nations training requirements necessary for operational readiness are met. The Special Committee reiterates its call upon the Secretariat to be transparent in selecting contingents to meet specific needs of the United Nations and gaps, as identified in the periodic uniformed capability requirements papers, from the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System when available. The Special Committee encourages all peacekeeping stakeholders to focus capability pledges to address identified needs and gaps, including through the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System and mission-specific pledging conferences. The Special Committee stresses the need to address shortfalls in the standing force requirement for police personnel in peacekeeping operations, especially for police officers with specialized expertise, in line with the criteria and standards specified by the Strategic Guidance Framework for International Policing. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to provide regular updates on the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System, to continue its efforts to improve strategic force generation and to provide a briefing on this issue prior to its next substantive session.

114. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that troop- and police-contributing countries are consulted and provided in a transparent manner with factual information to ensure a timely, efficient and effective transfer of essential roles and responsibilities when responding to changes in the mandate, including inter-mission deployments, and in terms of the corresponding memorandum of understanding and/or statement of unit requirements. Further, the Special Committee stresses that measurement of the performance of troop- and police-contributing countries must take into account potential changes and allow for adequate time to adjust. The Special Committee recognizes that coherence between mandates, mission concepts and statement of unit requirements is critical for mission success, and urges the Secretariat to review the statement of unit requirements regularly, including after mandate renewals, with a view to ensuring that adequate positions or roles, personnel and equipment within the unit organization are met, as appropriate to the situation on the ground, in order to avoid any potential negative impact on performance.

115. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to further improve the speed of mission start-ups and the efficient, timely and transparent recruitment and deployment of all categories of personnel, including in cases of increases to troop ceilings, and requests an update to the Special Committee on recruitment timelines. The Special Committee further requests the timely deployment of logistics and equipment, including equipment commensurate to the threat environment.

116. The Special Committee, while underlining that responsibility for training and equipping contingents to required United Nations standards rests with Member States, continues to recommend that relevant troop- and police-contributing countries make use of different training mechanisms and training partnerships, including the triangular partnership programme, co-deployments and other smart pledging, to access all necessary training support so as to build the capacity and capabilities available for United Nations peacekeeping and ensure the verified attainment of United Nations training standards prior to deployment. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to continue to make full use of the light coordination mechanism

structure to encourage increased information-sharing and direct coordination between military and police capacity builders and recipients to eliminate redundancy and focus efforts, and to facilitate training partnerships.

117. The Special Committee takes note of the standard operating procedures for Member State-provided military mobile training teams. The Special Committee welcomes efforts to enable the deployment of mobile training teams to peacekeeping operations, in coordination with the Secretariat, recognizing the importance of effective mobile training teams in addressing identified training gaps related to operational context-specific skills. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide an update on the implementation of the standard operating procedures for Member State-provided military mobile training teams, including feedback from Member States and missions.

118. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat update training guidelines and materials with mission-specific requirements, including for military, police and corrections personnel, taking into account current operational requirements, best practices and lessons learned, in order to support effective predeployment training. The Special Committee stresses the importance of ensuring that peacekeeping training materials and manuals, guidelines, handbooks and other materials are made available in the six official languages of the United Nations, and encourages interested stakeholders to explore possibilities for supporting, through voluntary and in-kind contributions, the translation of those documents into other languages of major troop- and police-contributing countries. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide the detailed status of the outstanding translation needs.

119. The Special Committee notes the roll-out of the new United Nations police training architecture programme, and requests the Secretariat to ensure that sufficient time and support, including when requested through the light coordination mechanism, are provided to Member States, in particular police-contributing countries, to meet the new requirement emanating from this new mechanism. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on this issue before its next substantive session.

120. The Special Committee notes that the lack of critical enabling assets negatively impacts the implementation of peacekeeping-mandated tasks. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages all relevant stakeholders to coordinate in a coherent manner to enhance mission capabilities as informed by military capability assessments. The Special Committee notes that rotational mechanisms, which allow troop- and police-contributing countries to combine their capabilities to facilitate the availability of critical enabling assets in missions through a multinational arrangement with the United Nations, could be a way forward to address the lack of these assets in missions by using the light coordination mechanism or when submitted through the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System. The Special Committee therefore calls upon troop- and police-contributing countries that are in a position to provide critical enabling assets for United Nations peacekeeping missions to develop, in close cooperation with the Secretariat, midterm plans for making available those assets on a rotational basis in order to facilitate mission planning and mandate implementation, and further requests the Secretariat to develop a policy in this regard as a part of a detailed plan to address the current shortfalls, to be presented to the Special Committee before its next substantial session.

121. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [67/261](#), notify the permanent missions of troop- and police-contributing countries in writing, in an expeditious manner, of cases of absent or non-functional equipment, as specified in the relevant memorandum of

understanding, and include a description of absent or non-functional equipment and its associated contingent in order for troop- and police-contributing countries to undertake corrective measures to fulfil their obligations in this regard.

122. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat and missions to ensure the responsible and effective use and tasking of contingent-owned equipment, in line with the statement of unit requirements and the agreed memorandum of understanding, in order to avoid having a negative impact on the performance of the mission.

123. The Special Committee notes that the United Nations provides equipment to troop- and police-contributing countries in line with the memorandum of understanding. In this regard, the Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to ensure the fulfilment of their responsibilities, such as the provision of field defence stores, and accommodation and its maintenance, which meets United Nations hygiene standards, to help to avoid any potential impact on performance, ensure safety, security and force protection, and maintain the morale of the peacekeepers.

124. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat, host countries, relevant troop- and police-contributing countries and other relevant stakeholders to ensure transparent and seamless coordination during drawdown processes, including but not limited to travel arrangements for uniformed personnel and appropriate disposal and repatriation of contingent-owned equipment.

125. The Special Committee notes with concern that lengthy recruitment processes for positions in the Secretariat and missions, including senior positions, may have a negative impact on peacekeeping operations performance. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of conducting recruitments for all personnel in a timely manner, and furthermore requests that the process and selection criteria be transparent and that candidates of nominating Member States be provided with adequate feedback on reasons for non-selection. The Special Committee therefore requests the Secretariat to organize a briefing prior to its next substantive session on the measures taken to optimize the length of recruitment processes, including administrative processes after selection, and steps taken to improve transparency.

126. The Special Committee notes the new methodology for calculating mission subsistence allowance and requests the Secretariat to conduct a review of the potential impact of the change of rate, with a particular focus on whether this change has resulted in an obstacle to the generation and deployment of individual police, military and corrections personnel, including specialized capacities, and whether this change has also impacted the representativeness of deployed seconded personnel. The Special Committee also requests that the review include whether the operational capabilities and performance of field missions have been negatively impacted.

127. The Special Committee emphasizes the critical importance of strategic communications to the performance of peacekeeping operations in a rapidly changing communications landscape, and recognizes that the efficient use of strategic communications and the provision of accurate content in coordination with local authorities, where appropriate, by peacekeeping missions is key to the effective implementation of their mandates, including with regard to protection of civilians and to advance the women, peace and security agenda, and helps to strengthen understanding of the mandate and manage expectations among local communities and host governments. The Special Committee encourages peacekeeping missions to give due consideration to the feedback of local populations and host States. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to develop – in close consultation with Member States, and making use of their best practices – guidelines and training materials on strategic communications, to be implemented at all levels of peacekeeping operations, as well as to provide training to uniformed communications personnel, with the objective of integrating strategic communications into planning

and decision-making. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to integrate, in coordination with national authorities and other relevant stakeholders, strategic communications into the planning and implementation of peacekeeping missions' mandates.

128. The Special Committee recognizes that uniformed and civilian personnel deployed in remote areas are most aware of the needs of local populations. To that end, the Special Committee recommends that due consideration be given to the recommendations of uniformed and civilian personnel when determining quick-impact projects, and urges the Secretariat to ensure strict adherence to the policy on quick-impact projects as it relates to inclusion of uniformed and civilian personnel. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide detailed information regarding the implementation of quick-impact projects by the uniformed and civilian components for each mission.

129. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue its efforts, along with Member States, to identify challenges presented by natural disasters in implementing the mandates of peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee further recommends that suitable mission-specific contingency measures be developed, in close consultation with Member States, with a view to assisting local populations during occurrences of such eventualities, within their mandates and capacities.

130. The Special Committee requests that recommendations emanating from integrated assessments and reviews that might result in changes in operational requirements, including strategic assessment reviews, continue to be implemented once endorsed by the Security Council, as appropriate, in close consultation with troop- and police-contributing countries.

131. The Special Committee recognizes the potential impact on morale and performance of delays or lack of compensation for death and disability. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to settle adjudicated death and disability claims as soon as possible and in a more transparent manner. The Special Committee notes that there is a need for adequate outreach on claims procedures, including with regard to specific information on the filing period, documents required and the United Nations offices to be notified. In this regard, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that the process of determination of compensation, including any decisions on pre-existing conditions cases, is fair, transparent and complies with all General Assembly resolutions and resulting United Nations standards. The Special Committee notes the ongoing work on the development of the autopsy template and the *Medical Support Manual for United Nations Field Missions*. The Special Committee requests a briefing on the progress in the development of these documents before its next session.

132. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of strengthening the performance of United Nations peacekeeping operations in Africa, including of civilian and uniformed personnel, and the need to review and adjust United Nations peacekeeping mission mandates in a timely manner, according to the actual needs of the country concerned and the situation on the ground, in line with the principles of peacekeeping and, where applicable, in consultation with the African Union and subregional organizations.

133. The Special Committee takes note of the Secretariat's initiative to carry out a review of the quantity and quality of the rations provisioned to the troops with a view to supporting the health and well-being of all military and police contingents, and urges that the review ensure optimal nutritional needs, taking into consideration cultural, religious and gender aspects.

## G. Politics

### General context

134. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on politics from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the present report.

135. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussions in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

### Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

136. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding politics to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

- (a) Policy on joint mission analysis centres (2020);
- (b) Policy on joint operations centres (2019);
- (c) Guidelines on joint operations centres (2019);
- (d) Standard operating procedure on integrated reporting from peacekeeping operations to United Nations Headquarters (2019);
- (e) Joint Mission Analysis Centre Field Handbook (2018);
- (f) Interim policy on integrated assessment and planning (2018);
- (g) Policy on planning and review of peacekeeping operations (2017);
- (h) Status-of-forces agreements/status-of-mission agreements (examples can be found in the *United Nations Treaty Series*).

### Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

137. The Special Committee reaffirms the primacy of politics in the prevention, mediation and resolution of conflicts and the supporting role that peacekeeping operations should play in the pursuit of sustainable political solutions, and the need for stronger and more inclusive peacekeeping partnerships. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of peacekeeping operations being anchored in and guided by a political strategy throughout their duration. The Special Committee underlines that, in accordance with their mandates, peacekeeping missions should have realistic goals and objectives and a clear exit strategy, where applicable.

138. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the pursuit of sustainable political solutions guide the design and deployment of United Nations peacekeeping operations. Furthermore, missions should be actively involved in preventing and mediating conflicts, creating an enabling environment and supporting inclusive and comprehensive political processes at all levels. That involvement should be firmly anchored in a political strategy, developed in close consultation with all relevant stakeholders on the basis of a comprehensive analysis of the situation, root causes and dynamics of conflict at all levels for lasting peace. The political strategy should be rooted in a whole-of-United Nations approach and provide clarity about how each element in the mission mandate underpins sustainable political solutions.

139. The Special Committee welcomes the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to mobilize all stakeholders in support of more effective United Nations peacekeeping, including through his Action for Peacekeeping initiative, and calls upon all relevant stakeholders to redouble their efforts in translating their commitments into positions and practice, including in all relevant United Nations bodies, as well as at the field level, and to meet periodically in relevant formats to review progress. The Special Committee acknowledges the efforts of the Secretary-General to accelerate progress on the implementation of the Action for Peacekeeping initiative, and takes note of his Action for Peacekeeping Plus priorities for 2021–2023. In this regard, the Special Committee emphasizes the importance of considering the views and recommendations of Member States, including those expressed during the high-level meeting on Action for Peacekeeping held in September 2018, in advancing the Action for Peacekeeping initiative. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the Secretariat brief Member States on progress under the eight themes of Action for Peacekeeping, focusing on challenges to its implementation and the impact on mandated mission activities while presenting relevant available data on these impacts.

140. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of strengthening strategic, operational and tactical coordination and synergy of United Nations peacekeeping, humanitarian and development actors, where mandated. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat and mission leadership to continue to improve integrated, strategic, operational and tactical planning and analysis of the contexts, priorities, capacities and needs of all missions, drawing on lessons learned from best practices. The Committee encourages the Secretariat to implement structures and mechanisms facilitating integration at all levels in peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to further develop adequate capacities, including through the establishment of mission planning units. The Special Committee continues to emphasize the need for greater transparency, and calls upon the Secretariat to update the Committee on these efforts and to strengthen measures to share the findings of strategic reviews, assessments and special investigations of peacekeeping operations with Member States. The Committee welcomes the updated policy on integrated assessment and planning, and requests a briefing on its implementation before its next session.

141. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to provide sound, realistic and frank analysis, feedback and recommendations on the mandates of peacekeeping operations to the Security Council. This should include any impact of budgetary decisions by the Fifth Committee. More substantive discussions between the Security Council and field-based actors, including the United Nations country team, should form part of this dialogue.

142. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to share the findings of strategic reviews, assessments and special investigations of peacekeeping missions commissioned by the Secretary-General with Member States, as appropriate. The Special Committee further urges regular strategic reviews and assessments, based on existing mechanisms, with a focus on analysis, feedback and recommendations.

143. The Special Committee encourages further interaction between all peacekeeping stakeholders with the missions on the ground to ensure better understanding of the situations, including threat dynamics and challenges on the ground, and coordination, including through videoconferences, field visits and any other practical means.

144. The Special Committee reiterates its call upon the Secretariat to enhance strategic and operational coordination between United Nations missions and the relevant strategies and policies of national and other relevant regional and international actors, including United Nations country teams, in order to develop a

complementary approach, taking into account comparative advantages, towards achieving common objectives. In this regard, the Special Committee urges further sharing of data and analysis between relevant United Nations missions and country teams to support more cohesive regional responses. The Special Committee also calls upon the Secretariat, Member States and regional and subregional organizations to enhance cooperation on conflict prevention and detection of emerging threats and to further develop regional capabilities in this regard.

145. The Special Committee continues to encourage the Secretariat to utilize the full range of mechanisms to engage with troop- and police-contributing countries. In this regard, the Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat further expand the range of mechanisms to take place throughout the mandate cycle, including prior to mandate renewals, so as to optimally utilize the knowledge and experience of troop- and police-contributing countries. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of continuing informal discussions to evaluate, review and improve the efficiency, timeliness and effectiveness of the triangular consultation mechanisms.

146. The Special Committee encourages the Security Council to continue to engage in consultations with troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat, as well as relevant regional and subregional organizations and actors engaged in support of the political process. The Special Committee further encourages the missions to closely engage with all relevant stakeholders in order to better understand the root causes of conflict and possible political solutions, including with respect to exit strategies. The Special Committee recognizes the continuously growing regionalization of conflict. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages peacekeeping missions to build partnerships in support of peace processes, both within their respective regions and within the wider international community, in order to maximize the chances of success in achieving sustainable political solutions.

147. The Special Committee reaffirms the need for greater alignment between the political objectives and peacekeeping operation mandates and their implementation strategies. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of peacekeeping operations having mandates that are clear, focused, sequenced, prioritized and achievable and are matched by adequate and appropriate financial and human resources. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to expeditiously finalize its proposal on parameters for the sequencing and prioritization of mandates, thereby supporting the development of clear and focused mandates, with a focus on strategic objectives when peacekeeping operations are established or renewed.

148. The Special Committee recognizes that peacekeeping operations intervene in an environment of very high and diverse risks, with new risks rising. The Committee encourages the Secretary-General to develop a risk management strategy, in close consultation with Member States, to enable mission leadership levels to assess, prioritize and mitigate the most critical risks, including by defining the respective responsibilities of peacekeeping operations and Headquarters and by leveraging the potential of planning and evaluation instruments. The strategy should bear in mind that each peacekeeping mission context is unique and needs a specific risk management strategy, in accordance with Security Council mandates. The Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on the efforts made in this regard prior to its next substantive session.



## H. Protection

### General context

149. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on protection of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the present report.

150. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussions in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

### Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

151. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding protection to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

- (a) Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (2020);
- (b) Handbook on the Protection of Civilians in United Nations Peacekeeping (2020);
- (c) Policy on United Nations field missions: preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence (2020);
- (d) Manual for Child Protection Staff in United Nations Peace Operations (2019);
- (e) Policy on the protection of civilians in United Nations peacekeeping (2019);
- (f) Policy on child protection in United Nations peace operations (2017);
- (g) Guidelines on the role of United Nations police in protection of civilians (2017);
- (h) Protection of civilians: implementing guidelines for military components of United Nations peacekeeping missions (2015);
- (i) Human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces (2011);
- (j) Policy on human rights in United Nations peace operations and political missions (2011).

### Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

152. The Special Committee highlights the importance of missions adopting a proactive approach to implement protection of civilians mandates and taking timely measures to anticipate and neutralize or mitigate threats, including through credible deterrent actions in accordance with the mandate. Furthermore, the Special Committee reiterates the importance for missions to make use of comprehensive threat assessments, early warning data and peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis, and requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on this topic before its next substantive session.

153. The Special Committee continues to encourage the troop- and police-contributing countries to take all the needed measures concerning the protection of civilians, in accordance with the Charter, international humanitarian law and human rights law, and in line with the basic principles of peacekeeping, taking into consideration the mandate, the situation on the ground, as well as the relevant rules of engagement for the military component and the directives on the use of force for the police component.

154. The Special Committee takes note of the update of the Department of Peace Operations policy on the protection of civilians in United Nations peacekeeping operations (2019), and the practical guidance, tools and techniques in the Handbook on the Protection of Civilians in United Nations Peacekeeping (2020). The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to provide a briefing on the implementation of the protection of civilians mandate, in particular on efforts to ensure an integrated, coordinated and comprehensive whole-of-mission approach, community engagement and the incorporation of best practices and lessons learned, prior to its next substantive session.

155. The Special Committee reiterates its expectations that both the Secretariat and all troop- and police-contributing countries ensure, respectively, that all civilian and uniformed personnel are fully trained prior to deployment and continue to receive in-mission training, including through context-specific and scenario-based training and regular mission exercises, to required United Nations standards. Training and scenarios should focus on their roles and responsibilities with respect to human rights and the protection of civilians, including the particular protection needs of children and women, and on prevention of and response to sexual violence in conflict. The Special Committee takes note of the updated revision of the manual on the comprehensive protection of civilians and its use for protection training and encourages Member States to have relevant training courses certified by the United Nations. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing, prior to its next substantive session, on gaps in training and opportunities to enhance training on the protection of civilians for both uniformed and civilian personnel, including senior mission leadership. The briefings should also cover steps taken to ensure that all personnel have been trained to the required standards on core protection tasks, as set out in the manual on the comprehensive protection of civilians, prior to deployment, and on opportunities and steps taken to advance the digitalization of training modules. The Special Committee also requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing, prior to its next substantive session, on how protection of civilians aspects, including the particular protection needs of children and women, and on prevention of and response to sexual violence in conflict, have been incorporated into revised training materials for predeployment training.

156. The Special Committee continues to recognize the importance of integrated, coordinated and comprehensive whole-of-mission approaches to the protection of civilians and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to improve evaluation, monitoring and reporting with respect to the implementation of protection of civilians mandates. The Special Committee takes note of the development of the guidelines on special investigations into incidents regarding the protection of civilians by United Nations peacekeeping operations, and calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure that the findings of such investigations are shared with pertinent stakeholders, including members of the Security Council and relevant troop- and police-contributing countries, to ensure that issues identified in such investigations can be sufficiently addressed, including through accountability measures where appropriate, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a briefing on actions taken to address shortcomings during its next session.

157. The Special Committee urges peacekeeping missions to strengthen whole-of-mission implementation of protection of civilians mandates, where and as mandated. The Special Committee encourages missions to enhance their efforts to undertake safe and effective community engagement through consultations with local authorities and civil society. The Special Committee recognizes the important contribution such engagement can make to understanding local-level conflict dynamics and threats and building situational awareness. In this regard, the Special Committee welcomes the role of community liaison assistants and the development of the local conflict analysis and planning tool and recommends that missions incorporate and further develop this approach to share analysis and planning across components to implement proactive, coordinated, safe and effective approaches to threats against civilians. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat and troop- and police-contributing countries capture best practices and operational lessons learned so as to refine policies and processes in support of protection of civilians.

158. The Special Committee encourages Member States and the Secretariat to equip missions with relevant expertise to support host State authorities in corrections sector reforms, where and as mandated, in order to strengthen the implementation of protection of civilians mandates.

159. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of mechanisms to identify and rapidly respond to early warnings of threats of violence against civilians in a comprehensive, coordinated, integrated and gender-sensitive manner, and also recognizes the progress made by several peacekeeping operations in developing and refining early warning and rapid response systems, including the development and implementation of standard operating procedures. The Special Committee further calls upon all peacekeeping stakeholders to ensure that peacekeeping operations, where and as mandated, have the necessary resources and capabilities to enhance rapid response. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on progress in systematically recording, analysing and improving mission rates of response to credible threats before its next substantive session. The Special Committee calls upon peacekeeping operations, where mandated, to continue to update guidance and training on early warning indicators that are gender-sensitive, and to strengthen partnerships with local civil society to facilitate their meaningful participation in early warning and rapid response systems, and encourages efforts to share good practices and lessons learned across missions.

160. The Special Committee welcomes progress and continues to urge the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations to strengthen the systematic collection and analysis of data on threats of violence against civilians and on protection incidents and needs in United Nations peacekeeping operations, including the collection of data to enable gender-sensitive threat analyses. The Special Committee welcomes the use of Situational Awareness Geospatial Enterprise (SAGE) platforms and associated visualization and analysis tools at the mission level, as well as other efforts to strengthen data-driven approaches to the protection of civilians, and encourages the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations to consider the use of new technologies, including deep learning, in order to more accurately predict conflict events and further enhance the protection of civilians. The Special Committee requests a briefing on progress in this regard prior to its next substantive session.

161. The Special Committee encourages peacekeeping operations with protection of civilians mandates to develop, implement and regularly update their comprehensive protection of civilians strategies for incorporation into overall mission implementation plans and contingency plans. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat and United Nations peacekeeping operations to take into account threat assessments of violence against civilians in operational planning and decision-making processes that determine when and where a peacekeeping operation's capabilities are

deployed, and in the assessment of and requests for the human and material resources required to implement their mandates, including in the context of periods of surge, transition and/or mission drawdown, and to provide a briefing during the next session on these efforts.

162. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to develop, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, strategic guidance on integrated operational planning, that takes into account the need to effectively mitigate the risk to civilians before, during and after any military or police operation, including by tracking, preventing, minimizing and addressing civilian harm resulting from the mission's operations, including those operations that are conducted jointly with or in support of non-United Nations security forces, and reiterates its request for peacekeeping missions to continue developing capabilities to mitigate risk to civilians. The Special Committee further emphasizes that United Nations peacekeeping operations should be provided with adequate resources to implement protection of civilians mandates and requests the Secretariat to report on this during the next session.

163. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat and peacekeeping missions to prioritize threat assessments of violence against civilians during operational planning and decision-making processes, including in the context of periods of surge, redeployment, transition and/or mission drawdown and exit. The Special Committee further calls upon all stakeholders, such as the Security Council, host governments, the Secretariat, peacekeeping operations, the United Nations country teams and other relevant national stakeholders, including civil society, to strengthen coordination and coherence in ensuring that protection threats are centred and addressed during transitions and/or drawdown, in consideration of the possibility of escalation and the resurgence of conflict, and including through safe, meaningful and effective engagement with local communities.

164. The Special Committee urges United Nations peacekeeping missions to strengthen the implementation of protection of civilians mandates, where and as mandated, by enhancing, in coordination with national authorities, safe and effective community engagement and confidence-building, and ensuring a good understanding of the protection needs and capacities of the communities, including through consultations with local civil society, strategic communications, quick-impact projects and other available means, and strengthening analysis of local-level conflict dynamics and threats against civilians. The Special Committee recognizes that analysis and planning for protection of civilians should consider the various protection needs and threats faced by civilians. The Special Committee recommends that peacekeeping operations enhance the use of information from all the mission components in data-driven analysis, planning and decision-making in response to protection threats. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing, prior to its next substantive session, on the impact of these efforts at the mission level, the capabilities necessary to undertake these efforts and the extent to which these capabilities are present.

165. The Special Committee recognizes the important role played by field offices in the implementation of protection of civilians mandates by United Nations peacekeeping operations, including through local-level engagement and community liaison. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations to empower and support field offices in these efforts, including by strengthening integration, joint planning and analytical capacities at the field office level. Further, the Special Committee encourages continued progress in linking local and subnational political and protection efforts with mission-wide political and protection of civilians strategies.

166. The Special Committee takes note of the United Nations policy on United Nations field missions preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence, and emphasizes the need for the further development of mission-wide and coordinated protection strategies for addressing sexual violence in conflict. The Special Committee views the listing of parties to conflict responsible for patterns of rape or other forms of sexual violence in conflict, in the annual report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence, as essential to decreasing the number of incidents of conflict-related sexual violence and urges the Secretariat, where mandated, to ensure close coordination between mission leadership and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. The Special Committee recognizes the important role of women's protection advisers, among other mission components, in the implementation of mandates for addressing sexual violence in conflict and stresses the importance of adequately resourcing missions in this regard. In line with these aims, the Special Committee requests an update on key initiatives related to addressing sexual violence in conflict prior to its next substantive session. The Special Committee recognizes the positive role that women peacekeepers play in the protection of civilians, including in preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict.

167. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations to comprehensively operationalize the child protection mandate across all mission components where and as mandated. The Special Committee stresses that United Nations peacekeeping operations should be adequately resourced to fully and effectively implement child protection mandates, including through the speedy deployment of senior child protection advisers and teams, as well as uniformed child protection focal points. The Special Committee requests troop- and police-contributing countries to provide dedicated predeployment training on child protection and requests the missions to provide context-specific in-mission training on child protection in support of child protection mandates.

168. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to undertake close consultations with Member States, drawing on their views and legitimate concerns, including during the implementation of the policy on matters relating to peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis, and in developing and reviewing relevant operational guidance documents. The Special Committee encourages troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat to coordinate in order to ensure that relevant content on peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis is incorporated in predeployment training. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide regular briefings on the progress of the development and implementation of different operational guidance documents on peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis, including its impacts on the protection of civilians.

169. The Special Committee notes that, in situations where a peacekeeping operation operates in parallel with other forces, inter alia, counter-terrorism forces and training missions, the respective roles of each presence should be clearly delineated, and the role of the United Nations clearly communicated to the host State, local population and other stakeholders in order to avoid any possibility of confusion about the functions of the forces' presence.

170. The Special Committee recognizes that the security environment of peacekeeping missions is becoming ever more volatile, necessitating readjustments to be able to fulfil protection of civilians mandates. In this context, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to review, where applicable, missions' rules of engagement, so as to ensure that they are current and appropriately aligned to support mission mandates.

171. The Special Committee recognizes that improvised explosive devices pose a threat to civilians and peacekeepers alike and encourages United Nations peacekeeping missions, where and as mandated, to develop and implement measures to mitigate improvised explosive device threats against civilians, including by, as appropriate, deploying technologies and capabilities to counter such threats. The Special Committee also recommends that United Nations peacekeeping missions engage with local authorities and communities to enhance the missions' ability to identify and dispose of improvised explosive devices, while taking steps to minimize the risk of harm to civilians. The Committee further encourages Member States and the Secretariat to better equip missions to support host State authorities, where mandated, to strengthen their improvised explosive device threat mitigation.

## **I. Safety and security**

### **General context**

172. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on safety and security of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the current report.

173. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussions in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

### **Reference to relevant United Nations guidance**

174. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding safety and security to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of these documents could appear under several themes:

- (a) Guidelines on open-source peacekeeping-intelligence (2022);
- (b) Guidelines on force protection for military components of United Nations peacekeeping missions (2021);
- (c) Guidelines on improvised explosive device threat mitigation in mission settings (2021);
- (d) Policy on the clinical use of blood in field situations (2021);
- (e) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit Manual (2021);
- (f) Guidelines on acquisition of information from human sources for peacekeeping-intelligence (2020);
- (g) Policy on casualty evacuation in the field (2020);
- (h) Policy on United Nations standards for health-care quality and patient safety (2020);
- (i) Standard operating procedure on boards of inquiry (2020);
- (j) Standard operating procedures on the prevention, investigation and prosecution of serious crimes committed against United Nations personnel in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2020);

- (k) Policy on peacekeeping-intelligence (2019);
- (l) United Nations Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes (2019);
- (m) Secretary-General's bulletin on the introduction of an occupational safety and health management system ([ST/SGB/2018/5](#));
- (n) Policy on gender-responsive United Nations peacekeeping operations (2018);
- (o) Policy on United Nations crisis management (2018);
- (p) United Nations Improvised Explosive Device Disposal Standards (2018);
- (q) Policy on strategic communications and public information (2017);
- (r) Standard operating procedures on Headquarters crisis response in support of peacekeeping operations (2017);
- (s) Standard operating procedure on the notification of casualties in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2017);
- (t) Guidelines on improvised explosive device threat mitigation in mission settings (2016);
- (u) Medical Support Manual for United Nations Field Missions (2015);
- (v) Policy on the organizational resilience management system (2014);
- (w) Policy on virtual private networks (2013);
- (x) Policy on field occupational safety risk management (2012);
- (y) Policy on enterprise risk management and internal control (2011);
- (z) Policy on information and communications technology (ICT) physical and environmental security (2011);
- (aa) Policy on ICT risk assessment (2011);
- (bb) Policy on ICT security incident management (2011);
- (cc) Policy on monitoring and surveillance technology in field missions (2010).

### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

175. The Special Committee strongly condemns violations of status-of-forces agreements, to include obstruction of missions' efforts to implement their mandates. The Special Committee notes that these violations can endanger the safety and security of United Nations personnel and urges the Secretariat to finalize its assessment of the optimal mode for accurately recording such violations. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the Secretariat instruct all peacekeeping missions to systematically document violations of status-of-forces agreements and any limitations on freedom of movement, including on entry of equipment and personnel into the country and casualty evacuation. Mission leadership should use this information to monitor and resolve risks to the safety and security of peacekeepers and to mandate implementation. In this regard, the Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to continue to pursue efforts to establish a single database to systematically document status-of-forces violations across all peacekeeping operations, including their impact on safety and security and casualty and medical evacuation, and to engage with host governments, troop- and police-contributing countries and the Security Council to prevent such violations. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to provide all stakeholders with clear and systematic documentation on violations of status-of-forces agreements by any party and on all

measures taken by the Secretariat to prevent and swiftly resolve these violations. The Special Committee urges all parties, including host countries, to abide by status-of-forces agreements and immediately cease any activities inconsistent with these agreements. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to provide an update, prior to its next substantive session, on violations of status-of-forces agreements, including the risks such violations have presented to safety and security, efforts made by relevant parties to prevent such violations, and an update on its assessment of the optimal mode for recording such violations.

176. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to undertake close consultations with Member States, drawing on their views and legitimate concerns, including during the implementation of the policy on matters relating to peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis, and in developing and reviewing relevant operational guidance documents. The Special Committee encourages troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat to coordinate in order to ensure that relevant content on peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis is incorporated in predeployment training. The Special Committee requests a briefing by the Secretariat on its training initiatives in this field before its next substantive session. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide regular briefings on the progress in the development and implementation of different operational guidance documents on peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis, including its impacts on safety and security.

177. The Special Committee urges missions to effectively utilize all available peacekeeping-intelligence capabilities and guidance, such as the Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence Handbook, to better enable peacekeeping-intelligence-led operational planning that more effectively and proactively protects peacekeepers, as well as civilians where mandated. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of the delivery of relevant peacekeeping-intelligence content in predeployment training.

178. The Special Committee commends the Secretariat's initiative to implement the early warning coordinated response mobile application and recommends the Secretariat to implement it in relevant missions, where required, as early as possible to support a structured and unified response by the missions. The Special Committee further urges the Secretariat to develop and extend the field peacekeeping-intelligence coordination mechanisms to relevant missions, with due respect to State sovereignty, and synergize with existing early warning mechanisms in adherence with the United Nations policy on peacekeeping-intelligence.

179. The Special Committee reiterates its request to the Secretariat to ensure that the introduction and use of new technologies in peacekeeping operations are field-focused, reliable, cost-effective and driven by practical needs of end users on the ground. The Secretariat should facilitate centralized management and oversight of innovation to ensure the benefits of technology are distributed across missions to break down silos. The Special Committee underscores the potential for technology to enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers and to enable effective and timely decision-making, including through the use of current and new technology to counter and mitigate the threat of improvised explosive devices, to improve situational awareness, implement policy on matters relating to peacekeeping-intelligence/information gathering and analysis, enhance field support and facilitate substantive mandate implementation. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat and missions to ensure the responsible, safe and reliable use of technologies, with due respect for the host State's sovereignty in accordance with the relevant status-of-forces agreement, in alignment with the values enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the norms and standards of international law, and to avoid abuse and misuse of technology. The Special



Committee notes the release of the strategy for the digital transformation of United Nations peacekeeping and encourages the Secretariat to ensure implementation measures are integrated across the United Nations system, including field missions and the Secretariat. The Committee requests the Secretariat to provide an update before its next session on the introduction and use of new technologies to enhance field support and facilitate mandate implementation to streamline processes and to improve situational awareness including through improved collection, analysis and dissemination of data.

180. The Special Committee urges that adequate force protection measures be taken to improve the physical security infrastructure of camps, prior to and throughout deployment, including for temporary and remote deployments, through the integration of new technologies. The Special Committee also welcomes the smart camp technologies to provide improved safety and security, infrastructure management, and resource monitoring, including in contingent camps. The Special Committee request the Secretariat to include in the next report of the Secretary-General an update on the implementation of the policy on the integration of capabilities for the defence of bases, including an analysis of challenges in improving defence of United Nations bases in peacekeeping operations. In continuing to improve the camp environment, including safety for all deployed persons, the Special Committee welcomes directions on camp and accommodation designs in relevant documents and guidelines, and encourages further work on this subject in coordination with relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

181. The Special Committee stresses the importance of agility and adaptability of United Nations missions in response to the threat environment. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of the Secretariat regularly updating the action plan for improving the security of United Nations peacekeepers to adapt to changes in the operating environment. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to take all necessary measures to reinforce the resilience of United Nations peacekeeping missions and their personnel against new security challenges by strengthening their capacities to identify, analyse and respond to such threats, including by implementing short lessons learned cycles. In this regard, the Special Committee takes note of the introduction of the United Nations deployment review mobile application to enable fast dissemination and implementation of lessons learned among military and police personnel and training centres. The Special Committee encourages missions and training centres to integrate lessons learned cycles into tactics, techniques and procedures and adjust associated training requirements in the shortest amount of time, including through in-mission training, to improve the safety and security of United Nations peacekeepers, and requests a briefing on this topic before its next substantive session.

182. The Special Committee notes with concern the growing number of peacekeeper fatalities due to malicious acts and acknowledges that the safety and security of peacekeepers depends in part on adequate training and equipment. The Special Committee reaffirms that troop- and police-contributing countries must ensure that their military and police are adequately trained for threats in peacekeeping operations, and that the Secretariat is responsible for assisting in this, including by developing relevant training materials in a timely manner. With the support of the Secretariat, predeployment and in-mission training should include but not be limited to, where applicable, countering the threat from improvised explosive devices, health, basic first aid, force protection, counter-abductions and counter-hostage-taking, and gender-specific risk considerations in mission settings and strategic communications. The Special Committee urges Member States to ensure peacekeepers receive appropriate and adequate medical training, including the United Nations buddy first

aid and field medical assistant courses, and urges the Secretariat to continue to provide the necessary support, training materials and platforms.

183. The Special Committee expresses grave concern over the increase in fatalities from improvised explosive devices against peacekeepers in recent years. The Committee welcomes the independent strategic review of the United Nations peacekeeping operations' response to improvised explosive devices, and recommends that the Secretariat continues to implement its findings and proposals. The implementation will specifically include the development and implementation of an integrated mitigation strategy and coordination framework based on three pillars: prepare the force, defeat the device and degrade the network, as appropriate and consistent with mandates, to more actively counter the threat in missions facing an improvised explosive device threat in coordination with all relevant stakeholders. The Committee stresses the need for adequate burden-sharing in this regard between troop- and police-contributing countries that have primary responsibility for the training and equipment of peacekeepers, the Secretariat and Member States, including host States. The Committee also emphasizes the importance of adequate resources and technical support for improvised explosive device threat mitigation measures in missions. The Committee requests the Secretariat to strengthen and enhance coordination between its specialized services, including the Mine Action Service, the Office of Military Affairs and the Police Division to support improvised explosive device threat mitigation in peacekeeping contexts in accordance with their mandates, including during predeployment verification. The Committee also requests the Secretariat to report on the progress made in this regard prior to its next substantive session.

184. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to develop an integrated mitigation strategy and coordination framework so as to more actively counter the improvised explosive device threat in coordination with all relevant stakeholders, including host States and troop- and police-contributing countries.

185. The Special Committee recognizes the effort of the independent strategic review on the responses of United Nations peacekeeping operations to improvised explosive devices and appreciates the benefits of such a study for the safety and security of peacekeepers. Looking beyond the improvised explosive device threat, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing before its next substantive session on emerging threats to peacekeepers and any recommendations to improve safety and security.

186. The Special Committee acknowledges key challenges to security across many missions and notes with great concern the number of injuries and deaths of peacekeepers that have occurred during logistics road movements as the result of improvised explosive devices. The Special Committee welcomes innovative solutions to reducing convoy exposure, including through the introduction of renewable energy and other alternative options within missions. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to explore and report to the Special Committee on mission-specific measures to reduce convoy exposure.

187. The Special Committee expresses grave concern over the increasing number of attacks against peacekeepers and reiterates its call upon all Member States hosting peacekeeping operations to promptly investigate and effectively prosecute those responsible for attacks on United Nations personnel, and to keep the relevant troop- or police-contributing country informed of the progress of such investigations and prosecutions. To facilitate this, the Special Committee encourages Member States, the Secretariat and peacekeeping missions, where mandated and requested, to provide appropriate technical assistance and capacity-building support to Member States. The Special Committee also encourages cooperation between the working group on

accountability for serious crimes against peacekeepers and Member States in order to drive progress on combating impunity. The Special Committee requests the working group to provide regular briefings to the Committee to update it on the investigations and prosecutions of the perpetrators of crimes against peacekeepers.

188. The Committee notes the establishment of a focal point concept in missions for ensuring and promoting accountability for crimes against peacekeepers and requests the adoption of the concept in additional missions and the assignment of focal point duties to appropriate mission personnel.

189. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of enhancing the safety and security of peacekeepers, and notes with great concern the increasing amount of disinformation and misinformation directed against United Nations peacekeeping operations, which may negatively impact missions and peacekeepers. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to monitor and report on instances of misinformation and disinformation and to share this information with all relevant stakeholders. The Special Committee also requests that adequate resources and expertise be provided to peacekeeping operations to identify, monitor, analyse, respond to and counter misinformation and disinformation, including for the training of uniformed and civilian public information officers. The Special Committee further requests the peacekeeping missions to work with national authorities in this regard, as appropriate. The Special Committee recognizes that the provision of accurate content, including in local languages and in coordination with national authorities, as appropriate, by United Nations peacekeeping operations helps to strengthen understanding of their mandates, manage expectations and garner trust and support among relevant stakeholders, notably host governments and local communities, and contribute to countering disinformation and misinformation in order to strengthen United Nations peacekeeping operations' ability to implement their mandates and enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers.

190. The Special Committee stresses the need to improve the prompt dissemination of information to appropriate recipients, including concerned Member States, particularly whenever there is an incident in a peacekeeping mission that negatively affects operational effectiveness or results in serious injury to or the death of United Nations peacekeeping personnel. This includes the findings of boards of inquiry, as well as on mitigating actions taken, and the Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to continue the development of a casualty tracking system to improve the provision of proper medical treatment to peacekeepers and enable the prompt notification of illness, injury and death.

191. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to strengthen the safety of peacekeepers, including by implementing the occupational safety and health framework. The Special Committee calls for the Secretariat to enhance measures to address peacekeeping casualties caused by occupational safety and health hazards, including through the implementation of the comprehensive Secretariat-wide occupational safety and health framework. The Committee reiterates its request to the Secretariat to establish a consolidated occupational safety and health incident reporting system to collect information, record data and take remedial action. The Committee also requests the Secretariat, in consultation with troop- and police-contributing countries, to establish well-defined and practical occupational safety and health standards for peacekeeping operations. The Committee recommends increased information-sharing of occupational safety and health compliance data with all Member States on the initial roll-out of the improved occupational safety and health risk management system. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to provide an analysis of the trends in illness, injury and fatalities due to occupational safety hazards in United Nations peacekeeping operations and to propose recommendations.

192. The Special Committee commends the Secretariat's initiative to avail the occupational safety and health management system to civilian personnel and requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing to the Special Committee on the implications of extending the occupational safety and health management system to uniformed personnel, including potential costs, impacts on the processing of death and disability claims and any potential benefits in medical treatment for uniformed personnel.

193. The Special Committee welcomes the initiation of several health promotional and curative measures by the Secretariat towards achieving health and occupational safety of the peacekeepers deployed on the ground and urges the Secretariat to equally prioritize and implement in-mission preventive measures for health concerns. The Special Committee, in this regard, requests the Secretariat to review the provision of in-mission welfare schemes and in-mission counselling that are important for the psychological well-being and morale of the troops.

194. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat, troop- and police-contributing countries and Member States to continue their efforts to support the mental health of peacekeepers. In this regard, the Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to continue the development of the mental health strategy for uniformed personnel to advance mental health services for peacekeepers. The Special Committee requests an update before its next substantive session.

195. The Special Committee reiterates the need to provide a safe, enabling and gender-sensitive environment in peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee calls for the Secretariat and Member States, where applicable, to provide streamlined access to essential services and medications that address the special medical needs of women peacekeepers, including the provision of sanitary products for the duration of deployments. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to explore additional improvements in the form of training to help mitigate gaps in medical care, especially when dealing with women peacekeepers who have been victims of assault. The Special Committee calls upon all Member States to ensure that all military and police personnel deploy with appropriate and properly fitting equipment for the threat environment, taking into consideration the physiological differences between and among women and men personnel.

196. The Special Committee reiterates its call upon the Secretariat to ensure adequate medical facilities to provide a dependable 10-1-2 casualty response on a 24/7 basis, throughout the life of the mission. The Special Committee encourages the continued roll-out of the pilot exercise to stress-test and map existing medical facilities and aeromedical capabilities (including night-time flying), and provide a briefing to the Committee on the matter before its next substantive session, with remedial measures to address any gaps in the missions, including in their ability to meet the 10-1-2 casualty response principle. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to continue its work to establish and articulate to missions and troop- and police-contributing countries clear and minimum medical standards and to further develop clear indicators for evaluating and ensuring that these minimum standards in United Nations peacekeeping operations are met and are assessed in line with the Integrated Peacekeeping Performance and Accountability Framework. This should include, inter alia, minimum standards for level I, level II and level III facilities, combat medics, forward surgical capabilities, aeromedical evacuation teams and the new capabilities being updated accordingly in their respective memorandums of understanding and/or letters of agreement.

197. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to increase the efforts to provide timely casualty evacuations at all times and to enhance the capabilities of the rescue chain for all peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee reiterates its request to ensure that the authorization process for aerial casualty evacuation is practical and

timely, involving the minimum number of officials possible and delegating direct tasking authority of military air assets for casualty evacuations and medical evacuations to the lowest level possible in order to minimize response times. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that missions review, update and streamline mission-specific standard operating procedures on casualty evacuations. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to review the 2020 casualty evacuation policy, further develop the casualty evacuation procedures and support the effective implementation of the policy. The Special Committee requests an update before its next substantive session on the impact of changes in the casualty evacuation chain in terms of peacekeeper fatalities.

198. The Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to utilize the hospital assessment tool for the evaluation of medical facilities in all peacekeeping operations and to include, in the next report of the Secretary-General, an analysis of the results of these evaluations, including by identifying trends and challenges in ensuring that all medical facilities and health-care providers in peacekeeping operations meet established standards.

199. The Special Committee recommends that, in order to address health emergencies in the future, including pandemics, missions be given the appropriate resources to handle such medical emergencies. The Special Committee urges the Secretary-General and Member States to continue to take all appropriate steps to protect the safety, security and health of all United Nations personnel in United Nations peace operations, while maintaining the continuity of operations, including by continuing to utilize innovative technologies and remote arrangements to provide rapid and quality medical care for peacekeepers, including telemedicine, and to explore other possibilities such as electronic medical recording systems, with due consideration for data protection and privacy rights, and by continuing to enhance relevant training for peacekeeping personnel.

## **J. Women, peace and security**

### **General context**

200. Exceptionally, without setting a precedent, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on women, peace and security of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by anything in the general context of the present report.

201. The Special Committee decides to convene intersessional discussions in 2023, facilitated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole, to consider its working methods in relation to updates to the general context sections of its annual report.

### **Reference to relevant United Nations guidance**

202. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding women, peace and security to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

- (a) United Nations engagement platoon handbook (2022);
- (b) Policy on United Nations field missions: preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence (2020);

(c) Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (2020);

(d) Policy on gender-responsive United Nations peacekeeping operations (2018).

### **Proposals, recommendations and conclusions**

203. The Special Committee reiterates its request that peacekeeping missions take fully into account gender mainstreaming as a cross-cutting issue in the implementation of their mandates and integrate a gender perspective across all mission activities and at all stages of analysis, planning, implementation and reporting. The Special Committee further requests that peacekeeping missions do everything they can within their competencies to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels and stages of conflict prevention, peace processes and political solutions to conflict. The Special Committee also encourages peacekeeping operations, according to their mandates, to foster partnerships and to support engagement of relevant stakeholders, including women leaders and women organizations with host States, as appropriate. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to support and monitor missions' assessments of risks to the safety of women and missions' contributions to a coordinated approach with relevant stakeholders in order to promote a safe and enabling environment for women, including addressing concerns related to threats and reprisals against them. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to incorporate evidence-based reporting and analysis into a briefing to the Special Committee on women, peace and security issues in advance of its next substantive session.

204. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure that data-driven, comprehensive gender analysis and technical gender expertise are included throughout all stages of mission planning, mandate implementation and review and throughout the transition process, as well as the incorporation of a gender perspective, and to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women.

205. The Special Committee continues to express its concern at the overall low proportion of women in all categories and at all levels of the United Nations and therefore welcomes the Secretary-General's strategies, plans and efforts towards greater gender parity in the United Nations system. The Special Committee continues to encourage the strengthening of efforts to enhance the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in United Nations peacekeeping operations, in all categories of personnel and at all levels, including senior leadership positions, and ensuring women's participation at all stages of mission planning and implementation. The Special Committee acknowledges the increasing number of women peacekeepers owing to efforts made by the Secretariat and troop- and police-contributing countries, and encourages Member States to continue supporting efforts to increase the participation of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping at all levels, including as experts, mentors and trainers in missions. The Special Committee notes with concern the lack of women in senior leadership positions at Headquarters and in field missions. In this context, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat to address this imbalance in a transparent manner, on the basis of merit and as wide a geographical distribution as possible, and to support the promotion of women to senior leadership positions in missions, and calls upon Member States to develop strategies and measures, including active recruitment and the provision of adequate training and skills development, to increase the percentage of women deployed in relevant positions and to nominate more women for leadership positions. The Special Committee also underscores the importance of ensuring that women are able to take up the widest possible range of assignments in peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to provide an update, prior to its next

substantive session, on the status of recruitment and retention of women in peacekeeping, particularly in senior posts, based on merit and on as wide a geographic basis as possible.

206. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue its efforts, along with Member States, to identify and address challenges and obstacles to the increased deployment of women in peacekeeping so as to further motivate change. The Special Committee encourages the Secretary-General to continue to support its projects related to field mission facilities and infrastructure and, jointly with Member States, the Secretariat and regional organizations, to strengthen their collective efforts to address the obstacles to women's participation, at all levels and in all positions. The Special Committee also encourages the Secretariat to support Member States in sharing lessons learned in addressing challenges and obstacles to the participation of uniformed women personnel. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to provide an update, prior to its next substantive session, on the trends, factors and obstacles affecting women's participation in peacekeeping missions, and to share proposals in order to enable effective and sustainable deployment of women peacekeepers.

207. The Special Committee continues to encourage Member States and the Secretariat to foster cooperation on sharing best practices and results from national experiences with respect to the deployment of women peacekeepers. The Special Committee recognizes the continued efforts of troop- and police-contributing countries to increase the number of women peacekeepers, and in this regard encourages the creation of enabling environments for the deployment of uniformed women peacekeepers, both at Headquarters and in the field, including their commensurate accommodation arrangements. These efforts may include supporting platforms for sharing best practices, facilitating networking opportunities and developing sustainable networks for women peacekeepers, as a means to exchange experiences and information about participation in peacekeeping operations, with the aim of inspiring more women to participate in peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee also encourages missions to use networks as a way for women personnel to regularly provide feedback and raise concerns with leadership, as appropriate.

208. The Special Committee commends the Member States that have employed female and mixed engagement teams, which include both men and women, in the past on United Nations-mandated missions to increase women's participation, and encourages the Secretariat to accelerate the institutionalization of these teams into a higher-level command structure within the United Nations infantry battalion construct, in particular through the standardization of the role, training, organization and equipping of this new structure, as a way to ensure greater participation by women in peacekeeping operations and improve overall operational effectiveness. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a report on progress before the next session.

209. The Special Committee recognizes the positive role that the United Nations can play, in the context of peacekeeping operations, in promoting gender-sensitive and gender-balanced security sector reforms and supporting the development of national security sector institutions that are more responsive to women's needs and more balanced, with increased participation of women. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages peacekeeping missions to support host countries, at their request, in implementing gender-sensitive community violence reduction programmes and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and security sector reform processes, including by supporting their efforts to enable the meaningful participation of women in the negotiation, design and implementation of such programmes. The Special Committee further recognizes the importance of women's representation and participation in effective community engagement and enhanced

protection responses, and in this regard encourages targeted training and capacity-building for women police and justice and correction officers, with a view to ensuring the increased participation of women in peacekeeping.

210. The Special Committee recognizes the action taken by United Nations peacekeeping missions, particularly police components, in the strategic organizing, planning and implementation of initiatives to prevent all forms of violence directed towards women, including in the context of elections where mandated, and encourages good practices to be assembled and shared, as appropriate.

211. The Special Committee takes note of the preparation by the Secretariat of a report that identifies good practices to overcome barriers to women's participation in the defence sector with a view to advancing efforts aimed at increasing the representation and full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the defence sector. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to work in consultation with Member States and relevant stakeholders in the preparation of that report and to keep the Committee informed of the status of its development.

212. Given the increase in the number of women peacekeepers and the objective of promoting the inclusion of more women peacekeepers in the field, the Special Committee recognizes the importance of creating a safe, enabling and gender-sensitive working environment, in this regard, strongly urges the Secretariat and, where appropriate, troop- and police-contributing countries, to provide the necessary infrastructure and a conducive living and working environment for women peacekeepers, taking into account the needs and requirements of women, including those related to their safety, security and privacy, and to ensure that adequate safe and appropriate facilities, accommodation and equipment are available in mission areas in a timely manner, and stresses the importance of allocating adequate resources in this regard.

213. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat and the Member States to increase targeted training and capacity-building for women in uniformed components with a view to ensuring increased participation of women in peacekeeping and stresses the need for a greater commitment of all Member States to supporting more women officers and troops to further develop their professional skills with respect to mandate implementation, including through specialized courses and training activities. This is necessary to increase the number of women peacekeepers qualified to deploy as commanders, staff officers and experts in critical specialized positions. Simultaneously, in the case of replacements for contingents deployed in peacekeeping operations, the Special Committee encourages efforts to be made to maintain at least the same number of women.

214. The Special Committee continues to strongly support the recruitment and deployment of gender advisers to United Nations peacekeeping operations and to the Department of Peace Operations, to advise at a strategic level on integrating a gender perspective into mission activities and to actively participate in the strategic planning and decision-making processes of United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee also strongly supports the role of gender focal points in United Nations peacekeeping operations and recommends that they be nominated by all troop- and police-contributing countries, the Secretariat and missions at senior levels. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to reinforce the capacities of gender focal points across mission components to better integrate a gender perspective into all areas of work. In this context, the Special Committee calls for close coordination between military, police and other components and women's protection advisers and gender advisers within missions. The Special Committee encourages Member States to ensure the delivery of mandatory predeployment training on gender perspectives and women, peace and security priorities to all troops, observers, military and police



experts, sector commanders and force commanders so as to ensure that gender perspectives are systematically integrated throughout United Nations missions. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to develop guidelines and training modules for uniformed gender advisers deployed to peacekeeping operations in order to standardize their tasks and goals, including the translation and implementation of virtual training. The Special Committee welcomes the role of gender advisers in promoting the integration of a gender perspective into mission activities and reiterates its calls upon the Department of Peace Operations to review and strengthen predeployment training on relevant women, peace and security issues for troops, police and corrections personnel. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide, prior to its next substantive session, an update on the status of all gender advisers, including military gender advisers, and gender focal points across peacekeeping.

215. The Special Committee welcomes the establishment of the annual “Trailblazer Award” for women justice and corrections officers and commends its first nominees and recipient in 2022. The Special Committee encourages Member States and the Secretariat to support the further increase of women government-provided personnel justice and correction officers in peacekeeping missions, including through the sharing of best practices. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide information on progress made prior to the next session.

## Annex

### Composition of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations currently consists of the following 157 members: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The following observers were represented: Holy See, African Union, European Union, International Criminal Police Organization, International Organization of la Francophonie, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Sovereign Order of Malta.

