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**Comprehensive review of the whole question of
peacekeeping operations in all their aspects**

Implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report, prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution [79/296](#), highlights key developments in United Nations peacekeeping since the issuance of the previous report ([A/79/553](#)) and identifies issues for consideration by the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations.



I. Strategic context

A. Global challenges and perspectives for peacekeeping

1. For nearly eight decades, peacekeeping has stood as a uniquely legitimate, universally recognized instrument to fulfil one of the primary purposes of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security. Symbolizing the collective will of the international community to help countries move from conflict to sustainable peace, over 61,000 peacekeepers from 117 Member States continue to serve in 11 United Nations peacekeeping missions. Peacekeepers, serving with courage and commitment, uphold the values of the Charter of the United Nations: to build and sustain lasting peace and security, prevent conflicts from escalating, safeguard ceasefires, protect civilians, uphold the rule of law and human rights, rebuild trust and advance reconciliation, and support efforts to promote peace and security governance, and the youth and peace and security and women and peace and security agendas.

2. The current international security environment is marked by a scale and complexity of conflict unseen since 1946. The world faces a growing number of both intra-State and inter-State conflicts, many of which are protracted and increasingly interconnected. Regional spillover effects, transnational organized crime, terrorism and weaponization of emerging technologies further blur the lines between traditional and non-traditional threats. Persistent armed conflicts amid deepening geopolitical fragmentation and division have complicated efforts to forge and sustain consensus around political processes and mandates. With a lack of unity in the Security Council, peacekeeping is often expected to deliver complex mandates with ever-decreasing resources. Yet against this backdrop of increasingly challenging and often volatile, high-risk situations and threats against them, peacekeepers remain determined to operate effectively.

3. The United Nations continues to respond to the evolving challenges facing peacekeeping, building on the Declaration of Shared Commitments on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and developing the next phase of the Action for Peacekeeping Plus implementation framework. The 2025 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial, held in Germany in May, focused on the future of peacekeeping and was attended by over 1,000 participants from 135 Member States, demonstrating the broad support for peacekeeping. In parallel, and as requested by Member States in the Pact for the Future, the Secretary-General is conducting a review on the future of all forms of United Nations peace operations, which aims to present strategic-level, action-oriented recommendations to reinforce the entirety of peace operations and enhance their effectiveness and flexibility in addressing current and future challenges. These initiatives will serve as blueprints to ensure that peacekeeping operations remain effective, relevant and capable of delivering for those most vulnerable and in need by addressing insecurity, reducing human suffering and building better lives and futures for all, in a context of constrained financial resources.

B. Implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

4. At its 283rd plenary meeting, held on 14 March 2025, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations adopted a report ([A/79/19](#)) in line with General Assembly resolution [78/291](#). At the meeting, the Special Committee acknowledged that there was no agreement on the draft recommendations considered by the Working Group of the Whole, and decided to convene intersessional discussions in 2025 to consider its working methods in relation to its annual report.

5. The Secretariat has continued its efforts to implement the recommendations made by the Special Committee in its 2024 report ([A/78/19](#)).

II. Overview of Action for Peacekeeping Plus priorities

Action for Peacekeeping Plus monitoring

6. The Declaration of Shared Commitments on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations remains the foundational strategic framework for strengthening peacekeeping. Since its launch in 2021, Action for Peacekeeping Plus has served as the implementation strategy for the Declaration. It is intended to improve the effectiveness and impact of peacekeeping operations, focusing on seven systemic priorities and two cross-cutting themes.

7. Guided by the Action for Peacekeeping Plus implementation strategy, the Department of Peace Operations systematically tracked progress on priorities, as reflected in the progress reports shared with Member States in February and September 2025. Several areas of progress were identified. Missions actively pursued political solutions to conflict, combining regional, national and local efforts. The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) supported the Government in advancing the 19 April Agreement between the Government and two signatory armed groups that returned to the peace process by supporting the disarmament and demobilization of Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation and Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique, marking a major milestone in the continuing peace process. The United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) promoted effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of over 1,130 Zaïre combatants in Ituri Province. Missions worked closely with agencies, funds and programmes, civil society and host authorities to support and enable humanitarian assistance and development projects. MINUSCA provided a safe and secure environment to facilitate humanitarian access and responded to the needs of displaced people, coordinating with multiple United Nations entities and partners to pre-position and transport relief supplies to hard-to-reach areas. All categories of personnel deployed in peacekeeping missions met their uniformed gender parity strategy targets for women's participation in peacekeeping, except for military contingents. In 2025, there was a slight increase in fatalities resulting from malicious acts compared with 2024, but the number of fatalities remained lower than in previous years covered by Action for Peacekeeping Plus progress reports. The implementation of proactive measures, including addressing explosive ordnance threats and enhancing casualty evacuation procedures, is intended to enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers. In close coordination with the Mine Action Service, missions conducted extensive clearing operations and held training sessions and workshops on issues such as explosive ordnance risk education to mitigate threats to peacekeepers and local populations. Between November 2024 and April 2025, approximately 220 anti-personnel mines, over a dozen anti-vehicle mines, nearly 500 cluster munitions, over 5,200 other explosive ordnance and 33,500 rounds of small ammunitions in the area of responsibility of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) were cleared. Efforts to improve the evaluation of military performance are ongoing, with a pilot exercise of a new evaluation process held in mid-March 2025 in UNMISS. Missions continued strategic communications activities and engaged in early warning responses to misinformation, disinformation and hate speech. UNMISS rebranded Radio Miraya in response to local community feedback, with new programmes boosting listenership from 57 per cent of the surveyed population in 2024 to 85 per cent in 2025, according to a survey. A new iteration of Action for Peacekeeping Plus, which will continue to promote the core commitments of Action for Peacekeeping while building on lessons learned and responding to emerging challenges, will be finalized by early 2026.

III. Political impact of peacekeeping

A. Advancing political solutions and complementary political objectives at the local, national and regional levels: cooperation between peacekeeping operations and host States

8. Advancing political solutions and political objectives at the local, national and regional levels remains a priority, with peacekeeping missions continuing to support and promote the conditions conducive to enabling peace and political processes. Where mandated to do so, missions worked with host States to facilitate dialogue, support conflict resolution and foster conditions conducive to sustainable peace.

9. In the face of significant challenges, MONUSCO provided its good offices to foster dialogue, engage with regional stakeholders and support peace initiatives. In June 2025, the Mission facilitated the Aru II peace dialogue, under the leadership of the Ituri provincial authorities, which resulted in the signing of an *acte d'engagement* by six armed groups to cease hostilities, respect international humanitarian law and support disarmament efforts. The dialogue aimed to support the protection of civilians, restore State authority, define disarmament and demobilization modalities, and enable the return of displaced people and the resumption of socioeconomic activities. Provincial authorities, community leaders and representatives of the Demobilization, Disarmament, Community Recovery and Stabilization Programme also participated. To support national-level engagement in ongoing peace initiatives, MONUSCO facilitated the launch of the Interfaith Network for Peace in Ituri and provided advice and expertise on mediation and conflict resolution. In addition, the Mission supported the voluntary repatriation of 20 elements of the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda and the Conseil national pour le renouveau et la démocratie/Nyatura armed groups from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to Rwanda, in line with its disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, reintegration and resettlement mandate.

10. UNMISS supported efforts to refocus the parties on the inclusive implementation of the peace agreement and helped to mitigate risks of renewed violence across the country to prevent relapse into conflict. To advance community violence reduction efforts as an interim measure ahead of elections and as a foundation for disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and political processes, the Mission co-organized workshops with the country team, national partners and donors to review the newly developed national community violence reduction strategy. The strategy aims to support 20,000 former combatants and beneficiaries across all ten states.

11. With the political process in Abyei showing little signs of progress in the context of the continued conflict in the Sudan, as well as the political instability in South Sudan, the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) focused on establishing the conditions conducive to the resumption of dialogue, including support for intercommunal reconciliation and other peacebuilding activities. In this context, UNISFA supported pre- and post-migration conferences between the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities, including by facilitating women's participation, which reached 41 per cent in the post-migration conference held in May 2025, up from 30 per cent in the post-migration conference of May 2024 and 19 per cent in the pre-migration conference of November 2023.

12. MINUSCA advanced its five-year political strategy to support decentralization and the peace process in the Central African Republic, optimizing deployments, reinforcing partnerships with stakeholders and regional actors, adapting to shifting security dynamics to support the peace and electoral process, and supporting the extension of State authority.

13. Following the resumption of hostilities in 2020, the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) continued to support de-escalation

efforts while monitoring, investigating and reporting on the situation on the ground. MINURSO also supported efforts to build a conducive climate for the political process, led by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara.

14. Since the cessation of hostilities between Lebanon and Israel took effect in November 2024, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), adapting to the new operational environment, has continued to support the parties to fully implement Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#), including using its liaison and coordination functions, working closely with the Special Coordinator for Lebanon and assisting the cessation of hostilities mechanism in support of these efforts. UNIFIL facilitated the deployment of the Lebanese Armed Forces throughout the mission's area of operations, thereby helping the Government of Lebanon to extend State authority over its territory. UNIFIL also supported the Lebanese Armed Forces in addressing the issue of unauthorized weapons. Between November 2024 and July 2025, the mission identified and reported 293 caches to the Lebanese Armed Forces for disposal. The Israel Defense Forces continued to maintain a presence at five locations and two so-called buffer zones north of the Blue Line and conducted airstrikes on targets in Lebanon.

15. The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), amid increased dialogue between the relevant parties, continued its efforts to create conditions conducive to negotiations and an eventual settlement. This included, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser on Cyprus, promoting trust-building initiatives between the two parties and co-facilitating the newly established Cypriot-led Technical Committee on Youth.

16. The United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)¹ remained committed to building trust through partnerships and engagement with local authorities and civil society. UNMIK supported the Barabar Centre in promoting inter-ethnic tolerance, open dialogue and cultural exchanges between communities.

B. Supporting regional approaches to conflict prevention, management and resolution

17. MONUSCO continued to leverage its presence in the country to help advance peace initiatives aimed at addressing ongoing conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Pursuant to Security Council resolution [2746 \(2024\)](#), MONUSCO provided limited operational support to the South African Development Community (SADC) Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which was deployed to North Kivu between December 2023 and April 2025. MONUSCO also provided technical and logistical support for mediation efforts led by the African Union-designated mediator, and for the work of the panel of facilitators appointed by the East African Community and SADC.

18. MINUSCA supported regional conflict prevention by establishing a multiservice border post in Bembéré to strengthen bilateral security cooperation between the Central African Republic and Chad and by operationalizing the joint border security force, both of which contributed to tackling cross-border insecurity.

19. UNMISS supported regional efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts by working with the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and other partners on joint initiatives addressing the root causes of conflict, including intercommunal violence, cattle raiding and resources-based disputes, and to lay the

¹ References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#).

groundwork for transitional justice and longer-term conflict resolution mechanisms. In response to a rise in cattle raids in recent years, the Mission deployed a specialized police team to support the South Sudan National Police Service in reducing cattle raiding within a two-year timeframe. This support included community awareness-raising campaigns, workshops on prevention measures, data collection and analysis, improved joint analysis of cattle raiding trends through enhanced information-sharing, and training of United Nations police officers.

20. UNMIK engaged with the European Union to provide effective support for the normalization of relations between Belgrade and Pristina through advocacy, coordination and reporting.

C. Strengthening integration, strategic and operational planning and analysis

21. The Department of Peace Operations continued its efforts to strengthen integration, strategic and operational planning, and analysis. In support of the institutionalization of best practices in planning, the Department of Peace Operations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Department of Operational Support guidelines on the mission concept and mission plan were promulgated. To ensure a coherent long-term strategy, including the elements of an exit strategy, and a prioritized, short-term, comprehensive plan that is both grounded in the mission's political strategy and aligned with available resources, each mission is expected to maintain an up-to-date mission concept and mission plan and leverage the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System, already in use by all peacekeeping operations, to monitor impact and progress in the implementation of plans, in accordance with the guidelines. To safeguard mandate implementation amid the ongoing liquidity crisis and the geopolitical and financial uncertainty faced by peacekeeping operations, clear, prioritized and sequenced mission plans that are explicitly linked to resourcing parameters will be critical. The Department of Peace Operations will support missions in developing or updating their mission plans and with operational planning processes to ensure implementation. In addition, to improve internal integrated operational planning, the Department is working with missions to identify internal coordination and integration problems and develop processes that can address them.

22. The Department of Peace Operations contributed to the review of the policy on United Nations transitions in the context of mission drawdown or withdrawal, a system-wide effort led by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. The revised policy is expected to provide a more robust framework for system-wide cooperation and commitment to integrated transition planning and implementation.

D. Strategic communications

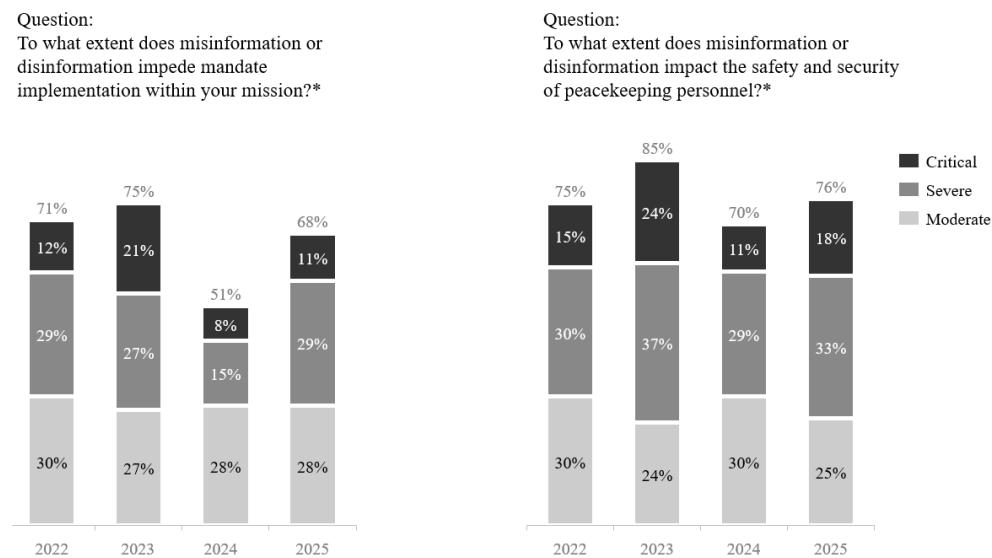
23. Strategic communications remained essential to peacekeeping, helping to build support, reinforce timely, accurate and impartial messaging on United Nations peacekeeping, and strengthen trust with local stakeholders. Missions worked to address misinformation and disinformation that affected the implementation of their mandates. Crisis response was supported, notably in South Sudan, eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and southern Lebanon. To underscore the relevance and impact of peacekeeping, ahead of the 2025 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial, the Department of Peace Operations led a global campaign on the theme "The future of peacekeeping", which highlighted key areas for pledges and commitments by Member States, including capabilities, training and partnerships priorities, through over 500 social media posts across six platforms. Member State engagement with

pledge-related content on United Nations peacekeeping digital channels increased from 38.5 per cent during the 2023 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial to 50 per cent in 2025. To amplify women's voices, raise awareness of the central role of women in conflict prevention and resolution, and mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the women and peace and security agenda, the Department undertook specific outreach efforts. This included partnering with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Elsie Initiative Fund for Uniformed Women in Peace Operations to organize an exhibition of photos captured in 11 post-conflict contexts entitled "Through her lens: women rising for peace", which travelled across four continents. In June 2025, over 250,000 visitors attended the New York exhibit. To advance peace and security through proxy messaging, the first Global Advocate for Peace, appointed in July 2025, engaged in public advocacy events. Efforts to strengthen the accountability of the United Nations and Member States continued with the launch of a campaign on paternity claims. Strategic communications guidance and training remained a core capacity-building priority to strengthen operational effectiveness in the field. A reinforcement training package on strategic communications was developed for uniformed personnel and will be further tailored for civilian components.

E. Information integrity

24. Misinformation, disinformation and hate speech remained a critical concern in peacekeeping settings, fuelling mistrust, polarization and violence, as revealed by surveys of United Nations peacekeepers (see figure I).

Figure I
Perceptions of peacekeeping personnel on the impact of misinformation, disinformation and hate speech on mandate implementation and safety and security



* Annual Department of Peace Operations survey on information integrity administered to United Nations peacekeepers.
 n = 242 for March 2022; n = 261 for June 2023; n = 261 for June 2024; n = 507 for April 2025.

Source: Department of Peace Operations Information Integrity Unit.

25. To mitigate misinformation, disinformation and hate speech and to promote information integrity, the Department of Peace Operations supported missions

through the issuance of a policy on information integrity in peacekeeping settings, training, expert advice, technological innovation, partnerships and direct field engagement. Since the issuance in December 2024 of the policy, peacekeeping operations have been taking comprehensive action, by basing anticipatory and responsive measures on monitoring and analysis of the information environment, stepping up proactive engagement with host populations, and building the capacity of host authorities, journalists and media workers. To strengthen unity of effort and optimize military and police contributions to information integrity, findings of a review of uniformed capabilities conducted by the Department are being implemented under the guidance of a consultative group of Member States. Implementation areas include doctrine development, capacity-building, and leveraging Member State capacities. As part of the digital transformation of peacekeeping, the Department, in collaboration with the Office of Information and Communications Technology, advanced efforts to equip missions with technological tools to better understand the information environment. This included the roll-out of Unite Wave for radio monitoring and the development of monitoring and analysis of the information environment platform for information manipulation analysis.

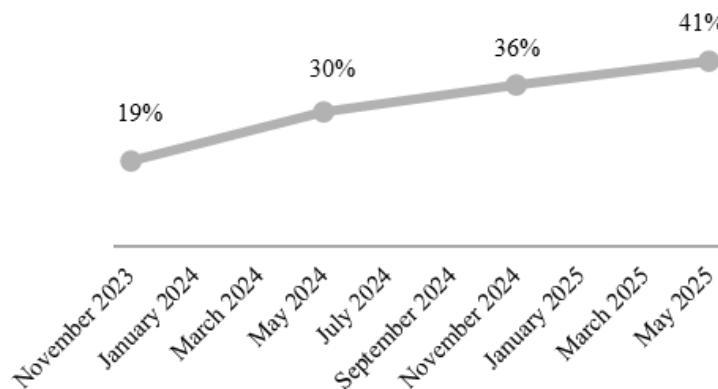
IV. Women and peace and security

A. Ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in political and peace processes

26. As part of overall efforts to advance the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda, United Nations peacekeeping continued to support the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peace and political processes. Member States reinforced this shared commitment during the 2025 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial, with 71 pledges committed to gender equality and women and peace and security.

27. Despite growing challenges, such as pushback on gender equality and security threats affecting women and girls, including in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Lebanon, United Nations peacekeeping missions provided support for capacity-building, technical assistance, local engagement, political advocacy and awareness-raising. MONUSCO supported women's groups in advocating for increased inclusion in the peace process, resulting in the involvement of women mediators in Ituri and the appointment of two women co-facilitators in the regional peace process, which had previously been led by men, and collaborated with young women influencers to combat misinformation. UNIFIL established formal channels of all-women gender working groups to engage in early warning, response and threat mitigation, and to build networks for aid distribution. MINUSCA supported women's registration in the electoral process and provided capacity-building training to 1,020 women political candidates across 17 cities. UNMISS provided grass-roots capacity-building training for women in order to facilitate their participation in the constitution-making process initiated in March 2025. UNFICYP increased its efforts to enhance women's participation in intercommunal trust-building, implementing 47 initiatives in the first quarter of 2025. In March 2025, the Department of Peace Operations enhanced women's visibility and promoted gender-responsive disarmament, demobilization and reintegration by hosting a high-level event on women in armed groups, which was attended by partners and stakeholders. In Abyei, UNISFA advocacy and financial support contributed to increasing women's participation in the biannual migration conference between the Misseriya and Ngok Dinka communities (see figure II).

Figure II
Progress in women's participation in pre- and post-migration conferences supported by the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei



Source: Department of Peace Operations, women and peace and security accountability framework.

B. Integration of a gender perspective into analysis, planning, implementation and reporting

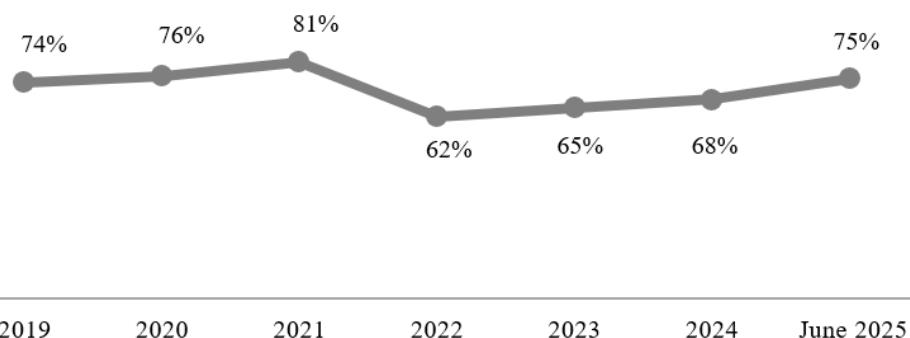
28. Peacekeeping missions continued to integrate gender across all substantive functions, components and mandated tasks. In line with guidance from Headquarters, all peacekeeping missions implemented the revised policy on gender-responsive United Nations peacekeeping operations issued in 2024, advancing gender-responsive approaches to planning, implementation and budgeting, including in quick-impact projects.

29. Priority was given to tracking progress and informing decision-making through gender-disaggregated data and analysis, while strengthening evidence-based assessments and accountability by integrating gender and women and peace and security perspectives into mission reports and strategic frameworks. In reports of the Secretary-General on peacekeeping operations, 100 per cent of the reports published during the reporting period contained gender-disaggregated data, 75 per cent featured sections on gender and women and peace and security, and 63 per cent included gender-sensitive recommendations (see figures III and IV). Comprehensive gender analysis was enhanced thanks to interoperability with the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System and other system-wide reporting frameworks. The Department of Peace Operations gender task force advocated for robust, system-wide accountability mechanisms at the most senior levels of peacekeeping, including leadership compacts containing specific deliverables on women and peace and security. To strengthen the capacity of mission leaders, the Department conducted senior leadership training sessions and seminars between February and May 2025, as well as a gender-responsive leadership training course from May to September 2025 to enhance gender-responsive approaches in leadership, decision-making and overall mission mandate and policy implementation.

30. Gender integration was further strengthened through coordination across mission components, supported by gender expertise and women and peace and security focal points. The seven peacekeeping missions with tasks related to women

and peace and security as part of their mandates maintained dedicated gender units for advice, guidance and strengthened accountability. In addition, the United Nations police expanded its network of gender advisers and focal points, enhancing its capacity for gender-responsive analysis across policing activities.

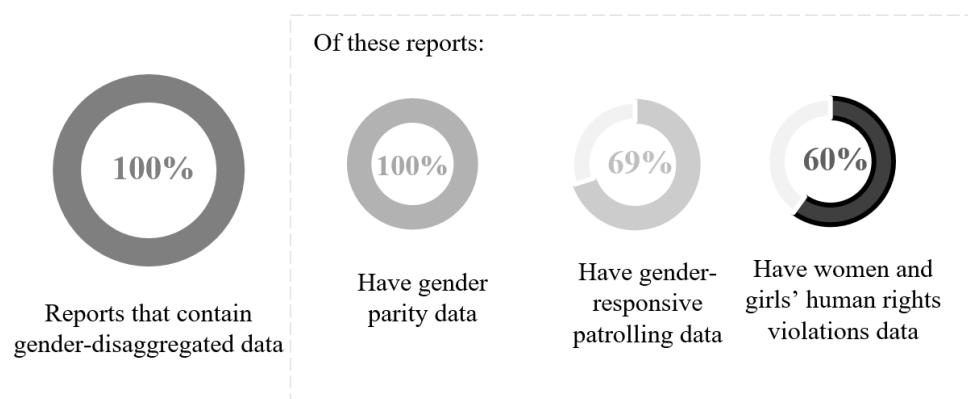
Figure III
Reports of the Secretary-General with dedicated gender and women and peace and security sections



Source: Department of Peace Operations Gender Unit.

Note: Data applies to the seven peace operations with women and peace and security mandates: MINUSCA, MONUSCO, UNFICYP, UNIFIL, UNISFA, UNMIK and UNMISS.

Figure IV
Use of gender-disaggregated data in reports of the Secretary-General, January–June 2025



Source: Department of Peace Operations Gender Unit.

C. Full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peacekeeping

31. Progress in women's peacekeeping participation continued, largely due to strong partnerships with Member States. As of October 2024, women constituted 35 per cent of civilian personnel in peacekeeping, up from 33 per cent earlier in the year, due to active recruitment and retention efforts, such as the senior women talent pipeline. In 2024, a record 14 individuals from the pipeline initiative were selected to senior positions. As of March 2025, women represented 44 per cent of heads and deputy heads of police components, up from 38 per cent in December 2023.

32. As of September 2025, women accounted for 35 per cent of all Heads and Deputy Heads of Mission in peacekeeping operations. In 2025, a woman was appointed military Head of Mission in the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), only the second time a woman has held a uniformed post at this level. The Secretary-General's 2024 global call for nominations gave new impetus to gender and geographical diversity efforts, with record participation, including from Member States, which nominated more women than men.

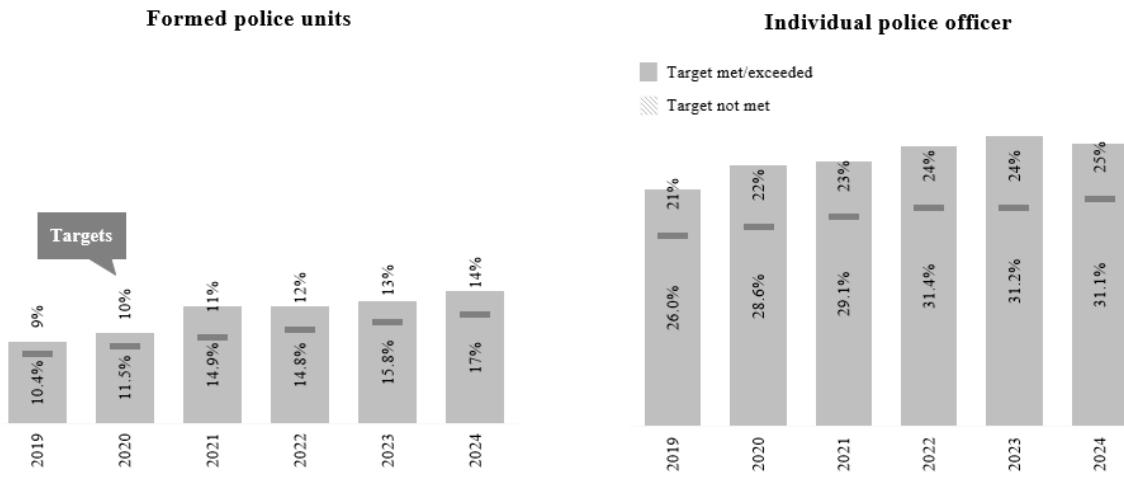
33. The Department of Peace Operations conducted a review of efforts to strengthen the meaningful participation of uniformed women in peacekeeping operations. The review revealed notable improvements since the launch of the uniformed gender parity strategy, with the overall share of uniformed women doubling between 2018 and 2024 (see figures V, VI and VII). Some 43 per cent of mission camps now comply with gender-responsive design recommendations and 57 per cent are undergoing improvements.

Figure V
Representation of uniformed women in United Nations military deployments compared with uniformed gender parity strategy targets



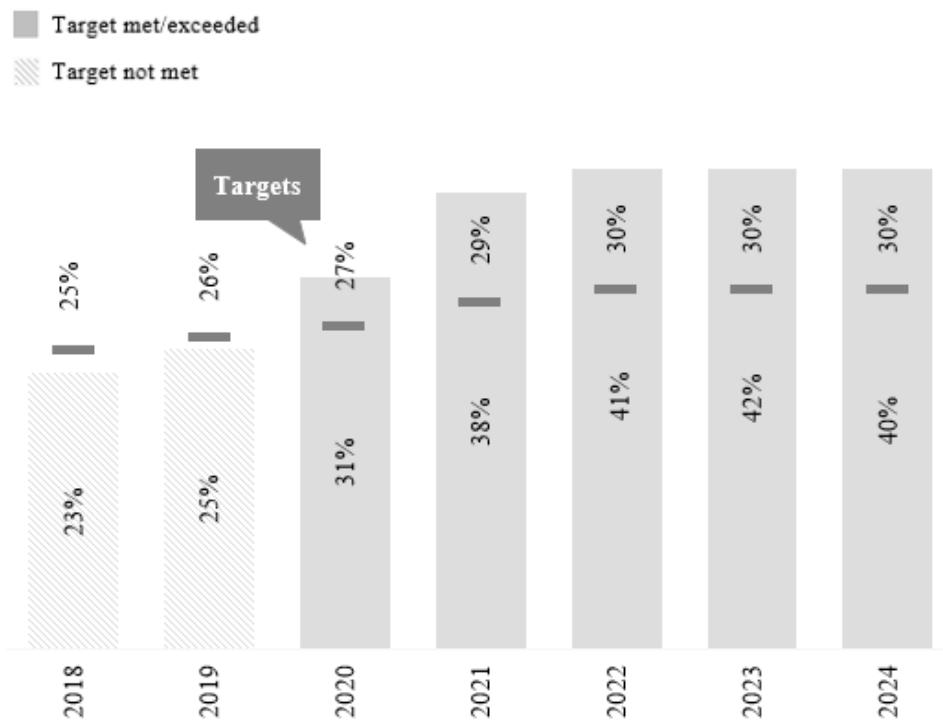
Source: Department of Peace Operations uniformed strength report.

Figure VI
Representation of uniformed women in United Nations police deployments compared with uniformed gender parity strategy targets



Source: Department of Peace Operations uniformed strength report.

Figure VII
Representation of women justice and corrections government-provided personnel compared with uniformed gender parity strategy targets



Source: Department of Peace Operations Justice and Corrections Service.

34. Key priorities identified following the review included: (a) supporting mission leaders to take action;² (b) addressing barriers to accessing leadership roles;³ (c) strengthening living and working conditions to meet the needs of all peacekeepers through targeted projects and systematic assessment of accommodation, camp design, health services and equipment; (d) improving the work culture;⁴ and (e) expanding the network for uniformed women peacekeepers, currently active in UNMISS, UNISFA and MINURSO, to all other peacekeeping missions by the end of 2025.

35. The Department of Operational Support supported the network for uniformed women peacekeepers and promoted an inclusive and supportive environment. This included the provision of gender-sensitive healthcare, supporting “ask the expert” sessions and launching a gender-sensitive healthcare survey, which has received over 2,500 responses, with respondents indicating improved access to care and satisfaction. A women’s health online training course, completed by over 960 field medical personnel, has improved the ability of clinics to respond to the specific health needs of female peacekeepers.

D. Women’s access to justice and representation in rule of law and security institutions

36. Multidimensional missions⁵ supported gender integration into national defence reforms through capacity-building activities and infrastructure upgrades. MONUSCO, together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), helped to establish a 20-room dormitory for female defence personnel in Kinshasa, thereby improving their living conditions and enabling greater participation in training. Following reviews supported by UNMISS and partners, harmful and discriminatory practices against women were removed from a prominent customary legal code. UNMISS, through the Mine Action Service, completed a capacity-building initiative for women deminers to foster leadership and representation in mine action.

V. Protection

A. Overview

37. Peacekeeping operations continued to support host States in fulfilling their primary responsibility to protect civilians, promote and uphold human rights, protect children in armed conflict, and prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence. During the reporting period, parties to conflicts routinely targeted civilians, including women and children, and civilian infrastructure. In contexts where climate change, transnational crime and the weaponization of new technologies compounded threats to civilians, peacekeeping operations continued to save lives and deliver on the imperative to protect civilians from threats of physical violence.

38. Through a comprehensive and integrated approach, and in coordination with host States, United Nations country teams and other actors, peacekeeping missions facilitated dialogue and engagement, adopted proactive and robust postures while

² In 2025, a gender-responsive leadership programme was held for uniformed and civilian mission leaders.

³ The women military peace operations courses implemented jointly with UN-Women benefited more than 100 women, and the United Nations policewomen command development courses benefited 250 women, including six Heads or Deputy Heads of police components.

⁴ For example, by strengthening prevention of sexual harassment.

⁵ MINUSCA, MONUSCO and UNMISS.

mitigating harm to civilians, and promoted accountability for human rights violations and abuses. The United Nations also deepened its partnership with the African Union on the protection of civilians in the context of the implementation of Security Council resolution 2719 (2023).

B. Protection through dialogue and engagement

39. Dialogue and engagement informed by verified data from human rights monitoring mechanisms was prioritized by peacekeeping operations. To de-escalate tensions and prevent further conflict and violence against civilians following the arrest in March 2025 of the First Vice-President of South Sudan, UNMISS conducted extensive high-level political engagement and dialogue with the Government and regional partners. The Mission prevented cattle-related conflicts through consultations, supporting the negotiation and implementation of local agreements and organizing a tri-state conference in December 2024 to address concerns with cattle movements. UNIFIL advocated for the protection of civilians during the hostilities and the fragile period after the cessation of hostilities, while continuing to use its liaison and coordination mechanisms, including to facilitate humanitarian activities. MONUSCO regularly engaged with community leaders and facilitated intercommunal dialogues as part of efforts to stem cycles of violence and protect civilians from armed group attacks and reprisals in Ituri Province.

40. Peacekeeping missions supported national authorities to address conflict-related sexual violence and engaged with parties to conflicts to implement action plans and commitments addressing grave violations against children. MINUSCA supported the roll-out of the handover protocol on the protection and transfer of children associated with armed forces and groups, which resulted in 19 children, including nine girls, being transferred from armed groups to civilian authorities. The Mission's engagement with the Azande Ani Kpi Gbe armed group resulted in a directive prohibiting grave violations and in the release of 19 children, including three girls. The engagement of MONUSCO with armed groups led to the release of 275 children, including 77 girls. A new child protection directive was signed in February 2025 and 45 United Nations police focal points were provided with training on implementing the directive.

C. Provision of physical protection

41. Peacekeeping operations continued to provide physical protection to civilians facing the threat of violence. At the peak of the January 2025 offensive by the Mouvement du 23 mars (M23), over 1,800 civilians and disarmed Congolese defence and security forces were sheltering at MONUSCO bases. In addition, in response to deadly attacks against civilians in Ituri Province, the Mission increased its presence in affected areas through dynamic patrolling and by deploying 52 mobile operating bases. Across North Kivu and Ituri Provinces, MONUSCO responded to 832 early warning alerts, despite movement restrictions imposed by M23 and joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces.

42. After hostilities between Lebanon and Israel ceased in November 2024, UNIFIL resumed patrols in the area of operations, including along the Blue Line, and engaged with local authorities and organizations, enhancing the mission's ability to monitor and mitigate potential threats of physical violence.

43. MINUSCA protected civilians by reinforcing its presence in hotspot areas, establishing new positions in several prefectures, deploying additional United Nations

police to Bocaranga, Paoua and Bossangoa, and providing logistical support to national security and defence forces. Amid growing insurgency and human rights violations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Nations police strengthened coordination between national police and local populations in internally displaced persons camps, resulting in an increase in the reporting of crimes to the police and the targeted dispatch of prevention patrols.

44. UNMISS protected civilians by establishing five new temporary operating bases, increasing day and night patrols, and conducting 333 dedicated patrols to combat conflict-related sexual violence in hotspot areas between February and August 2025. UNISFA increased ground patrols, checkpoints and weapons confiscation in response to increased insecurity resulting from the spillover from the conflict in the Sudan.

D. Establishment of a protective environment

45. Peacekeeping operations contributed to the establishment of a protective environment, including through training on human rights and rule of law capacity-building and by facilitating humanitarian access. MINUSCA trained 178 members of the national defence and security forces, including 14 women, on protecting and upholding human rights. MONUSCO partnered with the European Union to raise awareness on the military code of conduct and ethics across three defence zones in Kinshasa, Lubumbashi and Goma, reaching over 100,000 soldiers by December 2024. UNMISS delivered child protection training to 3,245 members of the security forces, including 679 women. UNMISS also supported the host Government in establishing a national task force to combat gender-based and conflict-related sexual violence.

46. Beginning in November 2024, MINUSCA conducted comprehensive security assessments to identify high-risk areas and potential threats to the integrity and security of the elections, particularly for women candidates and voters. A joint electoral security plan with the defence and internal security forces is now in place, and the capacity of the internal security forces and the Central African armed forces to provide close protection to high-ranking officials, including women, has been enhanced.

47. Peacekeeping missions protected civilians through mine action, weapons and ammunition management, and support to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes. In Lebanon, the Mine Action Service enhanced clearance operations and civilian safety through training, accreditation and oversight for UNIFIL demining teams, and risk education for UNIFIL military and civilian personnel. UNMISS provided weapons and ammunition management training to the South Sudan national police service. Community violence reduction programmes by MINUSCA in support of the National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons promoted the voluntary surrender of weapons. MONUSCO supported the partial disarmament of over 1,200 combatants and conducted community-based reintegration activities to reduce violence.

48. Peacekeeping missions supported accountability and the functioning of criminal justice chains. Between November 2024 and September 2025, mobile courts supported by UNMISS adjudicated 648 cases, including 113 cases of gender-based and conflict-related sexual violence. MINUSCA supported the extension of the rule of law and restoration of trust in the justice sector by supporting the reactivation of 24 of 28 local courts. MINUSCA also supported the construction of a high-security wing at Ngaragba prison to secure the detention of high-profile prisoners. MONUSCO supported the Goma military court with the trial of a former Nyatura armed group leader, who was convicted and sentenced to 20 years in prison for violations against children.

VI. Safety and security

A. Trends on security and safety of peacekeepers

49. Peacekeepers navigated increasingly complex environments, confronting a multitude of often interwoven threats. Every peacekeeping mission activated its crisis management response plans at least once in the past 12 months, underscoring escalating dangers that demand robust and adaptive strategies to implement mandates while ensuring the safety and security of peacekeepers. Armed groups increasingly rely on unmanned aircraft systems, disguised devices and the spread of misinformation, disinformation and hate speech. The evolving threat environment required situational awareness and dynamic adjustments to operational posture and preparedness to deliver mandates efficiently and effectively while ensuring peacekeeper safety and security.

50. Between November 2024 and August 2025, 658 hostile acts were reported, resulting in 38 injured peacekeepers and 6 fatalities, a slight increase from 2024 but a decrease from 7 fatalities in 2023 and even higher numbers in 2022, 2021 and 2020. Despite fatalities remaining relatively low, the reporting period saw an increase in hostile incidents: as of August 2025, hostile incidents had already exceeded the total reported in 2023 (566), with the current trend indicating it will likely surpass the total for 2024 (635).

51. The Department of Peace Operations has increased its efforts to ensure the safety of its personnel and the successful execution of mandates by addressing potential risks and challenges. With the support of Member States, the Department supported peacekeeping missions in enhancing resilience, developing robust contingency plans for a range of security scenarios and enhancing capability and mobility, which are essential for ensuring the safety and operational continuity of missions.

52. Peacekeeping missions engaged proactively with host Governments to prevent and address any misunderstandings of mandates, status-of-forces agreements and status-of-mission agreements. Nevertheless, persistent restrictions on freedom of movement remained a significant challenge in several missions. These restrictions included the blockade of patrol routes and aggressive behaviour, access denial, temporary detention, and confiscation of United Nations-owned equipment.

B. Physical and mental health of peacekeepers

53. The Department of Operational Support implemented key measures during the reporting period to strengthen health and safety risk management. These included providing technical guidance on hazard identification and risk controls, building safety and health support capacity, and introducing an incident reporting system to capture data, inform corrective actions, and address hazard identification, root cause analysis and interventions.

54. Recognizing the significant psychological challenges faced by United Nations uniformed personnel in high-risk environments, the Department of Operational Support, with the support of Member States, advanced the mental health strategy for United Nations uniformed personnel through the development and launch of 10 interactive, self-paced e-modules that strengthen coping skills, promote early recognition of psychosocial distress and encourage peer support while considering cultural sensitivities, gender inclusivity and mission-specific needs. Accessible through the United Nations Institute for Training and Research global platform and linked to the United Nations MindCompanion digital platform, the launch of the e-modules marks a decisive step in operationalizing the pillars of the mental health strategy, namely prevention, early intervention and sustained support.

C. Action plan to improve the security of peacekeepers

55. The security of peacekeepers is a shared responsibility that requires a collective approach among all peacekeeping stakeholders and a shift in mindset to embrace organizational learning from security incidents. To improve casualty evacuation and learn from security incidents, a workshop was held in Entebbe, Uganda, in December 2024, attended by 57 subject-matter experts. To strengthen a lessons-learned culture, a mechanism was established to gather information on and analyse security incidents and ensure organizational learning, with a view to promoting the dissemination and actioning of lessons learned within and across missions, at Headquarters and in troop- and police-contributing countries. MONUSCO, MINUSCA, UNMISS, UNISFA, UNIFIL and the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) have developed mission action plans with concrete measures to ensure organizational learning from security incidents, including learning mechanisms. In addition, an anonymized reporting format for learning from security incidents was introduced and guidance was disseminated, with training currently being conducted for missions.

56. The Department of Peace Operations supported mission police components in implementing the action plan to improve the security of peacekeepers through dedicated workshops convened for heads of police components, formed police unit commanders, coordinators and chiefs of staff. Police performance and accountability measures increasingly focused on security aspects, based on updated guidance in accordance with the strategic guidance framework and the United Nations police training architecture programme, in consultation with Member States and field operations.

57. Peacekeeping missions took steps to enhance casualty evacuation procedures. Among these steps was the inclusion of the United Nations buddy first aid course in predeployment training to equip all personnel with essential first aid skills. The casualty evacuation policy is expected to be revised in the last quarter of 2025, and an issue paper on improving casualty evacuation equipment developed for the 2026 meeting of the working group on contingent-owned equipment. Casualty evacuation training, stress testing and expert support were provided to several missions, including MINUSCA, MONUSCO, MINURSO, UNDOF, UNISFA and UNMISS to improve planning and procedures, enhance coordination mechanisms and improve medical technical capabilities.

D. Addressing emerging threats

58. Peacekeeping missions analysed the threat posed by evolving unmanned aircraft systems technology to better understand the associated risks and implement risk reduction measures. Easily modifiable for hostile activities, unmanned aircraft systems have been used for information acquisition, jamming and spoofing, and the delivery of explosive devices. The low cost and increased availability of such systems, and innovative developments in weaponizing the technology, require counter-unmanned aircraft systems efforts that integrate the components and resources needed to protect peacekeeping personnel, facilities and assets.

59. In response to this evolving threat, interim operational directives were issued to missions to identify capability gaps and develop operational plans tailored to address specific threats, and in June 2025, the Departments of Peace Operations and of Operational Support issued joint guidelines on counter-unmanned aircraft systems. The guidelines outline uniformed capability requirements and provide a framework for policy, training and tactical employment of counter-unmanned aircraft systems.

Member States are encouraged to contribute counter-unmanned aircraft systems capabilities through the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System and peacekeeping ministerial meetings. The Technology Development Unit of the United Nations Global Service Centre offered three contracted counter-unmanned aircraft systems capabilities to missions.

60. A key element of the strategy of the Department of Peace Operations to enhance the security of peacekeepers was strengthening integrated base defence. This requires the integration of security and defence capabilities, particularly at integrated United Nations bases, where the Department of Safety and Security and uniformed components share responsibilities and authority, command and control. In 2025, an interdepartmental working group comprising the Departments of Peace Operations, of Operational Support and of Safety and Security completed a comprehensive review and revision of the policy on integrating capabilities for defence of bases.

61. The revised policy includes more detailed guidance on the responsibilities of civilian, police and military components, including handover and takeover arrangements when responding to escalating security incidents at an integrated United Nations base. Successful implementation of the revised policy will require cross-cutting, multi-year efforts that ensure the sustainability and impact of its required measures, including through rigorous preparation, predeployment training, and robust operational support to peacekeepers on the ground and regular rehearsals of plans to support integration efforts. The Department of Peace Operations worked with missions and at Headquarters to improve crisis management capabilities, with revised crisis management guidelines under development, supported by training and simulation exercises.

E. Accountability for criminal acts against United Nations peacekeepers

62. Efforts continued to hold perpetrators of crimes against peacekeepers accountable. Since 2020, 103 individuals have been convicted in relation to the killing of 35 peacekeepers and two United Nations experts in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon and Mali. In Lebanon, six individuals were convicted in July 2025 for their involvement in a fatal armed attack against UNIFIL peacekeepers in December 2022. One individual was convicted in 2024 by a court in the Central African Republic in relation to the killing of two MINUSCA peacekeepers in 2017. MINUSCA provided support to the national authorities for the investigation and prosecution of the case. The Department of Peace Operations supported mission police components in implementing Security Council resolution [2589 \(2021\)](#), on the collection and preservation of evidence for the investigation and prosecution of crimes against peacekeepers. MONUSCO also supported the identification of good practices on implementing procedures for post-blast investigations and handling of evidence, strengthening national forensic capabilities. MINUSCA, through the joint efforts of a specialized police team and the Mine Action Service, enhanced the technical investigative capacity of the internal security forces of the Central African Republic by supporting the establishment of a forensic laboratory and the provision of training and equipment to conduct post-blast investigations, including evidence handling, incident analysis and reporting. In December 2024, a comprehensive online database on accountability for crimes against peacekeepers, as mandated under Security Council resolution [2589 \(2021\)](#), was made available to Member States.

F. Digital transformation strategy and situational awareness

63. Leveraging data, technology and innovation is key to advancing the strategy for the digital transformation of United Nations peacekeeping, aimed at building a culture of data-driven, technology-enabled peacekeeping and empowering missions with timely, reliable data that improves operational effectiveness and decision-making. During the reporting period, efficiency and impact were prioritized, including streamlining processes for new digital initiatives, operationalizing the innovation workstream and launching an artificial intelligence literacy programme. Progress was made in mapping data assets and launching a data literacy programme for senior leaders. Support to missions included piloting mobile tools for patrol data collection, streamlining civil affairs reporting and standardizing injury reporting to improve data quality. A network of mission-based data staff was established to exchange best practices and coordinate capacity-building.

64. To enhance situational awareness in missions, one priority of digital transformation remained the development and roll-out of the Unite Aware platform, supporting mandate implementation and peacekeeper safety and security. During the reporting period, the Unite Aware platform was launched in a third mission, UNMISS, with a focus on supporting the patrol planning and approval process with national authorities. UNFICYP made daily use of Unite Aware to enhance situational awareness and analysis, and finalized an innovative custom module on buffer zone management. MINUSCA leveraged newly available patrol planning and tracking features in Unite Aware to enhance operational planning and analysis. Unite Aware roll-outs to UNMIK, UNISFA and MINURSO are planned by the end of 2025.

65. United Nations police enhanced situational awareness by implementing community-oriented policing strategies, supporting host Government counterparts through dedicated capacity-building initiatives and leveraging technology for information gathering and analysis. Through engagement with local communities, mentoring of national police and the use of data tools, such as crime mapping and digital reporting systems, United Nations police helped to support early warning, informed decision-making and effective responses of national police services to evolving security threats.

G. Peacekeeping-intelligence

66. The Department of Peace Operations worked with missions and Member States to enhance peacekeeping-intelligence. The Department issued guidelines on technical peacekeeping-intelligence, the final guidance document needed to complete the peacekeeping-intelligence policy framework. The implementation of the nearly completed action plan for enhancing the peacekeeping-intelligence, early warning and rapid response capabilities of MINUSCA brought concrete benefits to the Mission, allowing for better coordination between peacekeeping-intelligence stakeholders and for the establishment of a system to deliver relevant and timely peacekeeping-intelligence and early warning to senior leadership. The Peacekeeping-Intelligence Academy training catalogue included eight in-person courses and four online courses. The Academy trained 1,800 individuals, in person, online, and through e-learning. The Department worked with missions to develop an early warning and response toolkit, based on the early warning and response conceptual framework launched in 2024.

67. To improve the implementation of peacekeeping-intelligence early warning and rapid response, the Department of Peace Operations cooperated with mission police components and various United Nations entities to develop mission-specific action plans to enhance capacities related to the acquisition, analysis and dissemination of information that supported police components within broader mission frameworks.

VII. Performance and accountability

A. Integrated peacekeeping performance and accountability framework

68. The integrated peacekeeping performance and accountability framework collects in one place the measures and efforts taken to improve the performance of uniformed and civilian entities within peacekeeping, including through enhancing evaluation methodologies and tools. It was updated, streamlined and subsequently disseminated to Member States in June 2025. Progress included the issuance of a standard operating procedure on recognizing outstanding performance of uniformed units. The updated framework includes a table with an overview of the types of decisions that have been taken because of monthly performance meetings. The framework, which is intended to strengthen peacekeeping performance and accountability across the Departments of Peace Operations, of Operational Support and of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, is applicable to substantive civilian, uniformed and support components.

B. Strengthening accountability for performance

1. Performance assessment of civilian personnel and leadership

69. Since 2021, the United Nations has strengthened staff performance management by focusing on more meaningful performance conversations and promoting a culture of feedback and a human-centred approach. In October 2024, the United Nations Values and Behaviours Framework was integrated into performance management, requiring managers and their teams to align workplan goals with both deliverables and key behaviours. This shift required a mindset change, with managers seen as enablers of talent and staff taking ownership of their performance, with a greater focus on empowered teams. There has been a positive trend in staff perceptions of performance management and managerial effectiveness, according to staff engagement surveys. At the senior leadership level, 10 heads of peacekeeping operations signed compacts with the Secretary-General for the 2024/25 performance cycle, committing to delivering results. This cycle included a new priority area for managers to commit to combating racism.

70. To support a robust, mandate-focused risk management approach, all peacekeeping missions established enterprise risk management processes, with risk registers and corresponding governance structures. The Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and the Office of Internal Oversight Services supported missions in implementing the administrative instruction on evaluation ([ST/AI/2021/3](#)). Support was provided to 10 peacekeeping operations in 2024 and 2025 to strengthen evaluation knowledge and practice.

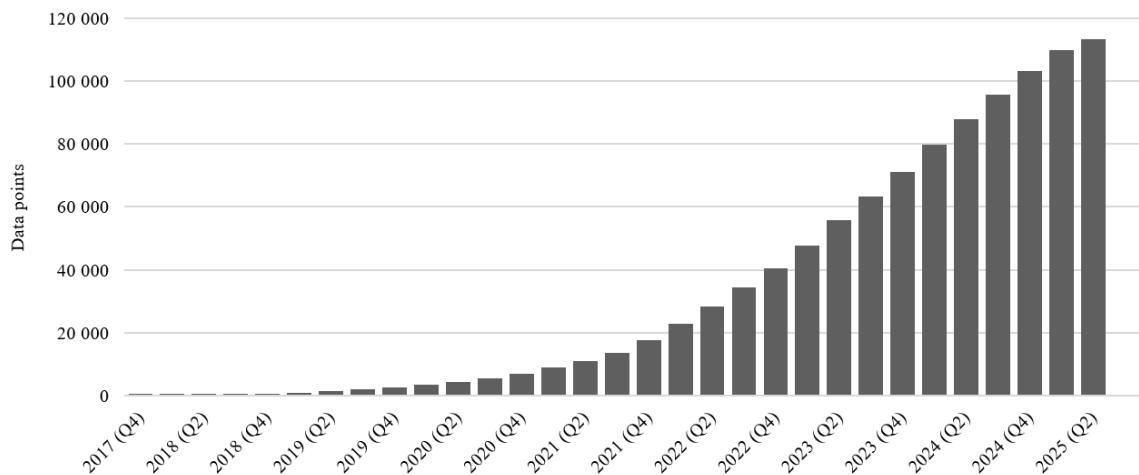
2. Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System

71. Peacekeeping operations continued to use the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System to assess their whole-of-mission performance while contributing to the digital transformation of United Nations peacekeeping.

72. When conducting Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System impact assessments, staff from across the mission analysed data and identified trends, challenges and opportunities and put forward recommendations to senior leadership on how to adjust operations to strengthen impact. Missions have increasingly relied on Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System data and impact assessments to inform Member States, including by using data, analysis and visualizations in reports of the Secretary-General and fact sheets in

Security Council briefings. Six missions regularly included data visualizations in their reports. A total of 28 fact sheets were developed to support briefings to the Security Council and other high-level meetings (see figure VIII).

Figure VIII
Number of Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System indicator data points across all peacekeeping missions



Source: Department of Peace Operations.

3. Integrated performance assessment of uniformed personnel

73. Assessing and improving the performance of personnel from troop- and police-contributing countries remains a priority. The Department of Peace Operations held integrated performance feedback meetings for troop- and police-contributing countries, including on identified shortfalls and good practices. Quarterly integrated performance meetings were held to update the leadership of the Departments of Peace Operations, of Operational Support and of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance on performance trends across missions, drawing from performance data in the Department of Peace Operations troop- and police-contributing countries knowledge management system. Monthly integrated performance meetings were held to discuss cases of serious underperformance, including misconduct and compliance with statements of unit requirements, enabling decisions that included engaging with troop- and police-contributing countries and implementing remedial measures.

74. The Department of Peace Operations developed and piloted a revised in-mission military unit evaluation that focuses more on operational effectiveness. The revised approach will be rolled out in late 2025. Performance improvement plans for all evaluated units remained part of the process. On the police side, an exam on the strategic guidance framework for international policing was made mandatory and two job-specific online training courses were made available. In addition to selection assistance and assessment visits (including pre-assessment training for women police groups), workshops for Member States and formed police assessment team evaluations continued prior to formed police unit rotations. Four annual workshops for formed police unit coordinators, commanders and contributing countries further reinforced police command and control capacities.

75. To ensure the delivery of safe, high-quality and effective healthcare services, the United Nations maintains a robust credentialing process for all healthcare personnel. Hospital assessments to review the processes and care provided by facilities was another priority. During the reporting period, six hospital assessments

were conducted, allowing for the identification of deficiencies in hospital equipment and practices. The use of comparative data reporting across hospitals in peacekeeping has improved the quality of care by identifying facilities needing improvement.

C. Working with Member States to strengthen the performance of uniformed personnel

1. Strategic force generation: pledges received at the 2025 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial

76. The Department of Peace Operations and Member States continued joint efforts to maintain military and police units in the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System at adequate levels of readiness for deployment to peacekeeping operations in alignment with the United Nations standards and requirements. Two new units were deployed to missions through the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System during the reporting period. Overall, nearly 260 pledges were registered in the System at the beginning of the 2025/26 fiscal year. Fifteen military units and two police units were available at the rapid deployment level during the reporting period, with one military unit deployed from that level to a peacekeeping operation. Strategic assessment and advisory visits to 11 Member States allowed 42 military and police pledges to be verified and helped Member States to prepare properly for future contributions.

77. The 2025 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial generated over 600 pledges from 73 Member States and new commitments in critical capabilities areas, such as aviation, quick reaction forces and rapidly deployable units, as well as the delivery of specialized training programmes. These are expected to enhance the ability of Member States to better deliver mandates and help missions to become more efficient and able to respond to existing and emerging threats.

2. Predeployment preparations

78. During the reporting period, two pre-rotation visits were conducted to assess rotating units that had previously been identified as having performance shortfalls. The visits assessed their preparedness with regard to training, conduct and discipline, equipment, human rights and gender awareness, and military skills. Operational readiness was also validated through military skills assessments for two infantry battalions and through operational readiness assessments for 27 formed police units. The Department of Peace Operations conducted in-person predeployment readiness assistance and assessment missions to Member States, along with extensive training to enhance the skills of police and military personnel in operational areas. The Department strengthened the capacities of Member States to deliver predeployment training by conducting 21 training-of-trainers courses for over 300 military trainers and 90 police trainers from 67 Member States. Military training included force protection and addressed misinformation, disinformation and hate speech. Joint training sessions on logistics and engagement platoon operations promoted a unified approach among peacekeepers. Police training focused on maintaining professionalism and discipline for police unit commanders. A total of 32 training recognition processes were completed for courses delivered by 22 Member States.

79. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) delivered 29 training sessions, 14 in partnership with the Department of Peace Operations, for over 570 civilian, military and police personnel, focusing primarily on senior-level commanders and uniformed trainers, as well as the preparation and advancement of female commanders. The sessions covered international legal frameworks, human rights standards and peacekeeping-specific topics, such as misinformation, disinformation and hate speech, force protection and

peacekeeping-intelligence. OHCHR supported Member State training centres in integrating human rights into predeployment training for contingents and continued advising on domestically established human rights screening procedures during assessment, advisory and predeployment visits to ensure compliance with United Nations policy.

3. Capacity-building and training

80. The new core predeployment training materials were finalized in January 2025 and rolled out through three regional training-of-trainers courses conducted in Africa, Asia and Europe. The Department of Peace Operations delivered several strategic leadership programmes and revised the United Nations senior mission leaders course to reflect developments in peace operations dynamics, crisis response and mission reconfiguration. The light coordination mechanism of the Department of Peace Operations facilitated two Member State-provided military mobile training teams supporting MINUSCA and the first multinational police mobile training team in UNMISS. To establish a cadre of well-trained military evaluators, a pilot training course took place. In 2024, the United Nations C4ISR Academy for Peace Operations developed five new courses in its training portfolio. A total of 13 sessions were delivered on various courses, attended by 95 United Nations personnel, including instructors, thereby building expertise and capacity.

81. OHCHR worked with the Department of Peace Operations to update training materials for the United Nations police commanders and military observers courses, aligning them with evolving operational needs and accountability standards. In addition, OHCHR expanded its engagement with peace operations and regional training centres in Austria, Brazil and Uganda, and provided in-mission training and advisory support to UNFICYP and UNMOGIP to strengthen the practical implementation of human rights obligations.

D. Guidance and lessons learned

82. Peacekeeping guidance materials developed by the Department of Peace Operations assisted United Nations peacekeeping operations in implementing their mandates more effectively. Between January 2025 and June 2025, the Department released 14 new guidance documents for United Nations peacekeeping operations, which were made accessible via the Peacekeeping Resource Hub. In addition, in response to a request from the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, during the reporting period, the Department developed a multi-year peacekeeping guidance plan that outlined the review and updating process for 130 peacekeeping guidance documents, from 2024 to 2027. Guidance material remains in high demand in missions, with a total of 65,400 downloads of peacekeeping guidance material in 2024 from the Peace Operations Policy and Practice Database and the Peacekeeping Resource Hub.

E. Providing effective support to peacekeeping operations

1. Supporting peacekeeping missions

83. Identifying, reporting and resolving caveats remains a priority, as was reiterated to all stakeholders. The Secretariat further highlighted the requirement to deploy all uniformed components without any caveats to ensure effective implementation of the mandate. Undeclared caveats were monitored and reported to resolve them in a time-bound manner while ensuring strict compliance with the relevant policies.

84. In response to the request made by the Special Committee in its 2024 report, the Department of Peace Operations conducted a review of the Office for the Peacekeeping Strategic Partnership and the implementation of its mandate. The outcomes and recommendations of the review were presented to the Special Committee in June 2025.

2. Medical standards and capabilities

85. The Department of Operational Support strengthened patient safety for uniformed personnel through skills development and professional training on healthcare quality, patient safety standards, quality assurance and structured assessments. This was achieved through the accreditation of medical facilities, effective use of data through performance dashboards, the creation of an electronic reporting system for clinical adverse events, which resulted in the first patient safety alert, and risk management through root cause analysis training, which was released as an online training module. Evidence-based clinical performance and effectiveness were monitored through clinical audits.

3. Aviation

86. The Department of Operational Support, in coordination with the Department of Peace Operations, provided aviation services to peacekeeping operations, including aeromedical evacuation, through a variety of sourcing solutions. In addition to establishing 68 long-term commercial contracts and Member State letters of assist, the Department of Operational Support concluded 23 on-call or standby arrangements with commercial providers and Member States to improve responsiveness to urgent requirements. The Department maintained rigorous quality assurance and performance mechanisms, including assessments and visits to troop- and police-contributing countries and air operators, to ensure compliance with international aviation standards and United Nations requirements. To identify trends, evaluate efficiency and inform corrective actions, data from flight operations, maintenance records and incident reports were systematically analysed, and the aviation standards framework, manuals and standard operating procedures regularly updated to provide clear, up-to-date guidance for safe and effective operations that align with industry developments. To strengthen support for peacekeeping operations, the Department continued expanding its operation of new capabilities in unmanned aerial systems, including cargo delivery.

4. Supporting innovative approaches to equipment serviceability and sustainability

87. The Department of Operational Support continued to encourage the deployment and sustainable maintenance of contingent-owned equipment required to carry out mandated tasks in field missions and advised Member States and field missions on utilizing the contingent-owned equipment reimbursement framework. The Department prepared new policy proposals on innovative approaches for the consideration of the 2026 Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment, including proposals relating to medical matters, cessation of operations, reimbursement for loss and damage, ammunition management, rotation of equipment, demining, gender-enabling environments and renewable energy. The Department led and coordinated submissions for 11 studies mandated by the 2023 Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment.

5. Technology and innovation in peacekeeping

88. The United Nations C4ISR Academy for Peace Operations delivered tailored courses. A state-of-the-art virtual instructor-led training system enhanced traditional

training methods through greater flexibility in terms of reach, time, mobility and language. In 2024, the Academy developed five new courses focused on training personnel, including instructors, to build expertise and capacity. These efforts aligned with the priorities of the Department of Operational Support and peacekeeping operations, while integrating emerging technologies into peacekeeping practices. Telemedicine continued to be implemented in selected missions following the endorsement of the Information and Communications Technology Steering Committee in 2024. The telemedicine project introduced industry-standard rapidly deployable portable telemedicine kits and satellite-based communication technologies to support dynamic use cases at the point of incident and upgraded digital infrastructure, including electronic medical records systems in troop-contributing countries' medical facilities in two pilot missions, MINUSCA and UNMISS.

89. Innovation through the leveraging of data and technology was a priority of the strategy for the digital transformation of United Nations peacekeeping. Peacekeeping innovation was accelerated through a three-pronged approach: promoting "self-guided innovation" to maximize peacekeeping efficiency with minimal reliance on external digital expertise; supporting the development of specific digital solutions to drive scalable and mandate-focused outcomes; and mainstreaming a culture of innovation and technology literacy to enhance collaboration, knowledge flow and skills-building. A curated toolkit providing tailored, on-demand guidance was developed for staff to use with minimal oversight. The Secretariat conducted an innovation accelerator to develop solutions for three peacekeeping challenges: lack of evidence-based analysis for conflict-sensitive climate adaptation; limited decision-making due to disconnected data; and underutilized perception survey data in protection-of-civilians planning. On a monthly basis, innovation practitioners and staff, as well as external experts, shared proven approaches and built peacekeeper skills.

VIII. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

A. Strengthening national capacity and ownership

90. Uniformed and civilian peacekeepers pursued integrated strategies to support peacebuilding by reducing violence, advancing national and local political processes, protecting civilians and strengthening the accountability of State institutions. MINUSCA supported the internal security forces of the Central African Republic through training on human rights, gender-based violence and election security, facilitated the handover of court infrastructure, enabled the adoption of the national defence policy and strategy, and helped to operationalize the border management policy. MONUSCO and the Congolese authorities launched an inclusive dialogue to align security sector reform with demobilization efforts, while the Mission led initiatives promoting positive masculinity targeting political stakeholders and security forces to enhance trust, participation and protection of women. MINUSCA and MONUSCO contributed to security sector reform through training-of-trainers for national institutions on weapons and ammunition management, supporting national strategies for explosive threat mitigation. UNMISS deployed specialized police trainers to provide support in combating gender-based violence and cattle raiding, developed technical guidance to strengthen South Sudanese prison and judiciary reform, implementation and service delivery.

91. In the rule of law sector, MINUSCA, through joint programming with UNDP, supported the Special Criminal Court in delivering three verdicts on complex war crimes cases. MINUSCA also reinforced the technical and physical capacity of the national prisons service through mentoring and the construction of a high-security

prison wing. MONUSCO assisted the Congolese authorities with audit mechanisms to help address human rights violations by national police and with the digitization of judicial and prison files to preserve evidence during the conflict in the east of the country. UNMIK helped to establish a court archive system and digitize 200,000 judicial files, improving case access and management. The Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law continued to coordinate and provide rule of law assistance to countries and territories experiencing conflict and fragility. In South Sudan, UNMISS and UNDP supported the Judicial Reform Committee, a body established pursuant to the peace agreement, to prepare its final report, which included recommendations on the comprehensive reform of the judiciary. United Nations police supported the electoral process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo by helping to validate the road map for combating electoral violence against women, facilitated by UN-Women, and by supporting national security preparations.

92. The Peacebuilding Fund continued to enable integrated approaches to strengthen national capacity in peacekeeping contexts. The Fund sustained and expanded a network of women mediators in the Kasai region supported by MONUSCO prior to its withdrawal from the area. Approximately \$10 million was allocated to support national peacebuilding priorities in South Kivu, including protection of civilians, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, community stabilization and the empowerment of women and young people. The funding was provided in collaboration with MONUSCO as the Mission transitioned out of the province, and with national authorities to advance community-based reintegration of former combatants. In the context of M23 territorial expansion and control in North Kivu and South Kivu during the first half of 2025, a reprogramming exercise for MONUSCO-funded transition activities in South Kivu was finalized on 26 March after a joint review with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes. As a result, planned activities to support State institutions in areas under the control of Alliance Fleur Congo/M23 were cancelled, including those to be financed by the transition portfolio of the Mission, the Peacebuilding Fund, the Stabilization Coherence Fund and United Nations agencies. Reprogrammed interventions were redirected towards strengthening community-based protection mechanisms, enhancing human rights monitoring and delivering vital support to children formerly associated with armed groups and to other vulnerable populations, including women and young persons.

B. Supporting inclusive and participatory approaches involving all segments of society

93. Peacekeeping missions boosted the inclusion of diverse actors critical to national and local peace processes. UNMISS backed a national security sector reform conference to gather public input on peace agreement-stipulated policy frameworks. MINUSCA community violence reduction initiatives, benefiting primarily young people and women, enhanced social cohesion and local security by disarming 593 former combatants and supporting 5,798 beneficiaries, of whom half were women. In Am Dafok, Vakaga prefecture, MINUSCA community liaison assistants helped to revitalize local dialogue and community-based early warning mechanisms, contributing to halving transhumance-related incidents in the area in 2024 compared with 2023, and enabling 60 per cent of displaced persons to return. From 20 to 22 May, the Disarmament, Demobilization, Community Recovery and Stabilization Programme, supported by MONUSCO, convened a workshop in Kinshasa to develop a priority action plan for the period 2025–2027. The Programme worked with representatives from State institutions, diplomatic missions, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to identify priority actions, including strengthening local presence, advancing community-based socioeconomic

reintegration, and integrating the women and peace and security agenda and the youth and peace and security agenda across all activities. To foster community-based reintegration in North Kivu Province, MONUSCO provided vocational and psychosocial support to young people formerly associated with armed groups and promoted community dialogue forums.

94. Peacekeeping missions advanced locally anchored peacebuilding initiatives that engage with young people, women and marginalized groups. UNMISS worked with UNISFA to support community dialogue in Jonglei and in Wau, with over 100 youth leaders committing to cease hostilities and prevent armed mobilization. In January 2025, MONUSCO built on an earlier pilot effort to launch a reinsertion initiative for young people formerly associated with armed groups in North Kivu Province, linking vocational training with psychosocial assistance and community dialogue forums. UNFICYP expanded the engagement of women and civil society in peacebuilding efforts, facilitating workshops, forums for dialogue, and entrepreneurship and innovation driven by women's groups. In Lebanon, the Mine Action Service increased outreach effectiveness by integrating women into mine action teams, while UNMIK enhanced access to justice for persons with disabilities through assistive technology.

95. Peacekeeping missions collaborated with country teams to leverage the Peacebuilding Fund for integrated initiatives aiming to enhance the long-term impact of missions' efforts to advance inclusive and participatory approaches. For example, a project was approved in South Sudan to increase the involvement of women in the security sector, while projects in the Central African Republic to revitalize local peace committees and facilitate dialogue in conflict-prone areas resulted in 724 youth and 493 community leaders reporting improved relationships and reduced tensions. MINUSCA collaborated with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and national authorities as they pursued projects under the Fund to support community-based reintegration of former combatants, complementing the Mission's work in this regard by targeting vulnerable persons ineligible under the national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process.

C. Strengthening coherence among United Nations system actors: outlook on the 2025 peacebuilding architecture review

96. Through coordination and joint programming on the ground, peacekeeping missions, country teams and the United Nations peacebuilding architecture strengthened the coherence of system-wide efforts to sustainably address the socioeconomic drivers of conflict. In December 2024, two pilot projects under a programme supported by MONUSCO, the country team and international partners were completed in Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu Provinces, facilitating the community-based reinsertion of 8,628 beneficiaries (1,770 of them women), including 1,482 former combatants and 6,075 community members, through the employment of such individuals in the rehabilitation of local infrastructure, psychosocial support, community dialogue, and conflict resolution training for 677 women leaders. In the Central African Republic, MINUSCA launched a stabilization plan for the country's Yade region, establishing temporary operating bases and deploying additional police personnel in conflict-affected areas. The Mission leveraged the reinforced presence of its uniformed components to implement road rehabilitation projects, thereby improving mobility and extending its operational reach, as well as that of national defence and security forces. The Mission and the country team reoriented activities to support the Yade stabilization plan, with a focus on the peace process, social cohesion, transhumance, road access and community dialogue.

97. The Peacebuilding Fund bolstered missions' efforts to build and sustain peace through deepened partnerships with Governments, international financial institutions, and other peacekeeping operations and United Nations entities. Leveraging the dedicated Partnership Facility of the Fund, the Peacebuilding Support Office deployed an adviser to MONUSCO to develop joint initiatives with the Government and international financial institutions. It also deployed surge capacity to UNMISS and MINUSCA, the latter to lead a strategic alignment exercise in which the Government, international financial institutions, the European Union, MINUSCA and the United Nations country team identified collective peacebuilding impact outcomes aligned with the new national development plan (2024–2028). The Fund operationalized this strategic alignment through a \$32 million joint programme with the African Development Bank, developed in collaboration with MINUSCA and implemented by the country team. The initiative aimed to support recovery in the conflict-affected Nana-Mambéré and Mambéré-Kadéï prefectures, building on the efforts of MINUSCA to advance implementation of the peace agreement. In parallel, MONUSCO, working with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, and with support from the Peacebuilding Fund, supported a project to strengthen the capacity of the Contact and Coordination Group, enhance cross-border confidence-building measures, and provide technical guidance on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration benchmarks. Such partnerships situated peacekeeping within broader strategies for sustainable development, enhancing peacekeeping impact and legacy.

98. As part of the ongoing 2025 peacebuilding architecture review, consultations with Member States, civil society, regional organizations and United Nations entities focused on strengthening the Organization's peacebuilding tools, partnerships and initiatives for greater impact. In this regard, the Peacebuilding Commission provided advice to the Security Council concerning the Central African Republic in November 2024 and June 2025, and ahead of an open debate on adapting peace operations in March 2025. Ahead of such advice, and in relation to thematic issues such as forced displacement, the Commission convened meetings at expert- and ambassadorial-level, at times featuring briefers representing civil society from peacekeeping contexts, to provide political accompaniment to host countries' efforts to achieve peacebuilding priorities.

IX. Partnerships

A. Partnerships with regional organizations

1. Strategic context of partnerships

99. Partnerships are vital to ensuring the success of collective international efforts, including peacekeeping. In the Pact for the Future, Member States affirmed the importance of enhanced collaboration between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in particular the African Union. During the reporting period, the United Nations and the African Union continued to deepen their partnership towards aligned political solutions and predictable, adequate and sustained financing for African Union-led peace support operations alongside efforts to strengthen cooperation with other critical partners through Headquarters engagement and field-level cooperation. Strengthening of peacekeeping partnerships with other international, regional and subregional organizations continued, including partnerships with the European Union, the League of Arab States (LAS), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

2. United Nations-African Union cooperation

100. The United Nations, including through the United Nations Office to the African Union, has continued to work closely with the African Union to support ongoing and potential peace operations in Africa. In Somalia, the United Nations supported the transition from the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) to the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM). In May 2025, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2767 \(2024\)](#), the Secretary-General submitted, in coordination with the African Union, a report on preparations for the hybrid implementation of the framework established by resolution [2719 \(2023\)](#) for AUSSOM.

101. Following the adoption of Security Council resolution [2719 \(2023\)](#), the United Nations and the African Union continued implementing the joint road map for its operationalization. Joint planning modalities for establishing new African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Security Council and funded by assessed contributions were agreed, at the technical level, to streamline assessment, planning and decision-making. Joint support planning modalities were developed for review at a joint workshop held in October 2025 in Ethiopia. The implementation of the African Union Compliance and Accountability Framework for Peace Support Operations continued to advance through the development of processes, policies and structures for peace support operations, including the identification of key documents to mainstream protection of civilians and assess gaps. The United Nations, as part of the joint road map, provided technical support for the development of an African Union policy on gender mainstreaming in peace support operations, which is pending validation and adoption.

102. In February 2025, under the knowledge and expertise exchange programme, a workshop was held to advance the development of the synergy training for the African Union-United Nations resource programme. This joint initiative aims to strengthen operational support skills and enhance joint engagements. The deployment of a strategic communications expert to support the secretariat of the Peace Fund of the African Union will continue for an additional year.

103. With regard to the African Standby Force, the United Nations supported preparatory work for the development of a police roster and provided technical assistance for the review of related policy and guidance materials and for the African Union annual police coordination meeting with police planning elements of regional economic communities and regional mechanisms. The United Nations provided advisory support to the African Union's Special Rapporteur on Prisons, Conditions of Detention and Policing in Africa to conduct a study on prisons and conditions of detention throughout the continent.

104. The United Nations contributed to the May 2025 meeting of the African Union Peace and Security Council dedicated to security sector reform, with a focus on lessons from the Gambia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali and South Sudan. The United Nations partnered with the African Union on targeted initiatives aimed at improving security sector governance, including gender mainstreaming in arms control and parliamentary oversight mechanisms. In March 2025, the United Nations and the African Union held a consultative workshop on the political dimensions of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

3. Partnerships with other regional and subregional organizations

105. Building on lessons learned from the current ASEAN-United Nations plan of action (2021–2025), the third plan of action, covering the period 2026–2030, was finalized, with a focus on further strengthening training assistance, supporting the

ASEAN Peacekeeping Centres Network, enhancing support for ASEAN women peacekeepers, and advancing work under the United Nations triangular partnership programme.

106. A new three-year European Union-United Nations framework on peace and security, setting out joint priorities, was finalized in 2025, with an emphasis on cooperation between field missions and operations during mission planning, in transition settings, and around challenges relating to support arrangements, the rule of law, security sector reform, climate, peace and security and the implementation of Security Council resolution [2719 \(2023\)](#). In line with Action for Peacekeeping Plus, focus was placed on supporting political frameworks and promoting gender-responsive leadership. The European Union Political and Security Committee visited United Nations Headquarters in May 2025. Senior United Nations officials, including several special representatives of the Secretary-General, also visited European Union headquarters to strengthen cooperation and to advance their good offices functions.

107. In July 2024, the Departments of Peace Operations, of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, and of Operational Support attended the sixteenth United Nations-LAS general cooperation meeting in Geneva. In addition, the United Nations held a series of virtual seminars with LAS on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and civilian capacity-building. A LAS official was invited to observe the synergy training for the African Union-United Nations resource programme design workshop for cross-regional learning. A forthcoming 2025 sectoral meeting will focus on cooperation in the field of women's rights and child protection in armed conflict.

108. During the annual United Nations-NATO staff talks in March 2025, participants noted progress in the delivery of NATO capacity-building support for United Nations peacekeeping training and the agreement to update the package of support. Good practices were shared on women and peace and security priorities and on protection of civilians.

109. The United Nations received support from the International Organisation of la Francophonie (OIF) in translating peacekeeping guidance materials into French. OIF also partnered with the United Nations to support francophone Member States in better understanding the recruitment process and required profiles for seconded police officers in francophone United Nations peacekeeping missions. Peacekeeping cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization was discussed within broader ongoing engagement and dialogue between the two organizations.

110. The Secretariat, through its light coordination mechanism, supported Member States in advancing regional cooperation networks in peacekeeping, including facilitating discussions among interested troop- and police-contributing countries in Africa and the Pacific, supporting the implementation of existing networks, and serving as the secretariat for a working group of South Asian States focused on possible regional cooperation in peacekeeping. Through the mechanism, the Secretariat supported the holding of the second regional round table on United Nations peace operations in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in May 2025, and the third Latin American and Caribbean conference on United Nations peace operations in Asunción in October 2025.

B. Partnership with host Governments

111. Cooperation with host Governments at all levels is essential in order for peacekeeping operations to implement their mandates effectively. Mission leadership,

in particular special representatives of the Secretary-General, actively engaged in fostering trust and mutual understanding with host Governments through formal coordination mechanisms and ongoing dialogue. These engagements occurred at multiple levels, including national, regional and local levels, and often involved structured committees or liaison platforms that facilitated coordination and problem-solving. In various contexts, and in accordance with mission mandates, civil affairs personnel support local administrators, while capacity-building programmes in areas such as law enforcement, mine action and the rule of law are carried out in close collaboration with national counterparts.

112. Most peacekeeping operations operate under status-of-forces agreements that outline the privileges, immunities and facilities accorded by the host State to the peacekeeping mission and establish the rights and obligations of both parties. To support the systematic documentation of incidents related to status-of-forces agreements, the Secretariat deployed a module for collecting data from such incidents in the Situational Awareness Geospatial Enterprise database in 10 peacekeeping missions. The Secretariat provided training and support to enhance data-driven reporting, through data analytics and dashboards, facilitating analysis of such incidents, both at the individual mission and peacekeeping-wide levels. A study conducted in 2024 in partnership with peacekeeping missions identified situations where movement restrictions had negatively affected the safety and security and casualty and medical evacuation of peacekeepers.

113. In response to freedom of movement restrictions that had a serious impact on mandate delivery, UNMISS continued to engage the host Government through established mechanisms to address those challenges. MINUSCA continued its efforts to optimize relations with the host Government and promote a shared understanding of the Mission's mandate, including by holding a second seminar on the new mandate in December 2024 to discuss priorities, challenges and prospects. In addition, MINUSCA continued engaging with the host Government on the need to lift restrictions on fuel imports for the Mission in line with the status-of-forces agreement in place.

C. Triangular partnerships for the provision of training and equipment to troop-contributing countries

114. The Department of Operational Support, through its triangular partnership programme, continued to provide training on engineering, medical, command, control, communications, computer, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and camp security technologies to uniformed personnel in Africa, Asia and surrounding regions. In November 2024, through the programme, the Department conducted the first multinational integrated training, combining engineering, medical and explosive hazard awareness training, in partnership with the Mine Action Service. Ten medical courses were held in English and French. In addition, an environmental management e-learning training course was launched and preparations are under way to launch another on construction process management.

115. In partnership with the Mine Action Service and the United Nations Office to the African Union, the triangular partnership programme delivered specialized training on explosive hazard awareness training, improvised explosive device threat mitigation and all arms search courses to standardize explosive ordnance disposal and improvised explosive device awareness in line with United Nations standards. During the reporting period, 217 instructors from 16 Member States participated in the programme. The training received through the programme will enable participants to

deliver in-country predeployment counter-improvised explosive device training, which is expected to significantly reduce the need for extensive in-mission training.

116. The June 2025 annual triangular partnership programme stakeholders' workshop, hosted by Kenya and co-chaired by Switzerland, was attended by 29 Member States and the African Union.

X. Conduct of peacekeepers and of peacekeeping operations

A. Conduct of peacekeepers

1. Conduct and discipline

117. The Departments of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and of Peace Operations worked in partnership with troop-and police-contributing countries to better prevent misconduct and to ensure that those who engage in misconduct are held accountable.

118. The commitment to ensure that all personnel, both uniformed and civilian, maintain the highest standards of conduct remains a shared priority. Achieving this commitment requires that personnel are fully trained on expectations related to their conduct, as detailed in the United Nations standards of conduct applicable to the different categories of personnel. Individuals in command positions and managers are expected to play an active role in managing risks of misconduct by identifying such risks, taking remedial measures and monitoring the implementation of such measures.

119. The Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, working with the Department of Peace Operations, engaged directly with troop- and police-contributing countries to enhance the management of risks of misconduct. In 2025, through engagements with troop- and police-contributing countries, the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance noted the increasing number of Member States that had adopted or were engaged in discussions related to the adoption of action plans to better prevent and respond to misconduct and provide aid and support to victims. These plans have begun to yield tangible results, including a reduction in reported allegations of recent misconduct, the resolution of misconduct cases with appropriate accountability measures, and progress in addressing outstanding paternity and child support claims. The adoption of such action plans by additional Member States is encouraged.

120. During the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, 68 allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse were reported, of which 25 were associated with incidents having occurred in 2020 or earlier. A total of 543 allegations of other forms of misconduct and serious misconduct were reported during the same period, a similar number of allegations as reported last year for the previous one-year period (552).

2. Certification of prospective personnel

121. The Department of Peace Operations ensured that only personnel that met United Nations eligibility requirements were deployed to United Nations peacekeeping missions. Troop- and police-contributing countries were responsible for predeployment preparation, including screening of nominated personnel to ascertain that they had not been involved in, or alleged to have committed, any criminal offences or violations of international human rights or international humanitarian law. Contributing countries were required to certify in writing that such screening had been carried out and submit self-attestations from candidates confirming the absence of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and any prior disciplinary action. The Department provided guidance on training and performance standards through the

operational readiness assurance and performance improvement policy and required contributing countries to confirm that all personnel had completed mandatory training and met United Nations standards. The certification process, combined with mandatory submission of unit certifications at least one month prior to deployment, strengthened oversight and accountability. These measures were considered essential to upholding the integrity of United Nations peacekeeping operations.

3. Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and placing the rights and dignity of victims at the forefront of the United Nations response to sexual exploitation and abuse

122. Sexual exploitation and abuse undermine the credibility and effectiveness of United Nations peace operations and violate the trust of the communities served. During the reporting period, the Special Coordinator on Improving the United Nations Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and the Victims' Rights Advocate, in collaboration with the Departments of Peace Operations and of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and others, increased their efforts to support field missions to operationalize and enhance victim-centred prevention and response measures through solo and joint assessment visits, capacity-building activities and engagement with Member States, including troop- and police-contributing countries and mission leadership. To enhance prevention and accountability efforts, the Secretariat will continue to consider responsiveness and accountability for sexual exploitation and abuse as part of a holistic assessment of troop- and police-contributing countries, in line with ongoing efforts to strengthen requirements on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and to reinforce accountability commitments from Member States.

123. The senior victims' rights officers in MINUSCA, MONUSCO and UNMISS continued to advocate for victims of sexual exploitation and abuse to receive medical, psychosocial, legal, livelihood and other essential support. The high-level task force on resolving paternity and child support claims involving United Nations uniformed personnel engaged with Member States to advance the resolution of paternity claims. The Office of the Special Coordinator on Improving the United Nations Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and conduct and discipline personnel in missions and at Headquarters supported leadership in managing sexual exploitation and abuse-related risks. An independent assessment commissioned by the Special Coordinator in 2024 reviewed progress, identified gaps and proposed sustainable measures to strengthen the system-wide response to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

124. Additional information concerning efforts to address sexual exploitation and abuse in peace operations will be covered in the next report of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, which is expected to be published in February 2026.

B. Conduct of peacekeeping operations

1. Environmental management

125. Building on the progress made since 2017 and as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution [76/274](#), in 2024, the Secretariat issued a document entitled "The way forward: environment strategy for peace operations 2023–2030, introducing the strategic themes of responsibility, ambition and legacy. Performance has remained strong, with improvements compared to the previous cycle. Greenhouse gas emissions fell with the increase in renewable electricity usage. The proportion of sites now operating at minimum risk level for wastewater and solid waste increased. The ongoing renewable energy transition, combined with energy efficiency initiatives, led to a 13 per cent reduction in fuel use per capita for electricity

generation since 2017, an annual saving of 15 million litres of diesel. The environmental target setting framework, rolled out across missions in the context of the 2025/26 budget preparation process, allowed for the projection of efficiency gains and performance improvement that can be anticipated from projects proposed by missions. Operational guidance and technical assistance were provided to explore ways to maximize the benefits of investment in peacekeeping facilities and infrastructure in terms of positive legacy. New training material was developed to fill identified gaps and ensure that stakeholder knowledge remains up to date, including a virtual course for environmental focal points of troop- and police- contributing countries on best practices for environmental stewardship in United Nations peace operations. Preparations are ongoing for an in-person training-of-trainers programme aimed at building the capacity of troop- and police-contributing countries to deploy with renewable energy systems.

2. Human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces

126. The United Nations continued to strengthen the implementation of the human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces. Implementation of the policy allowed the United Nations to work with non-United Nations security forces and host Governments to promote compliance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law by identifying risks to United Nations support and to jointly develop mitigation measures. The technical and logistical support provided by MONUSCO to national security forces' follow-up committees was instrumental to investigations aimed at ensuring accountability for human rights violations. MONUSCO also implemented the policy in its provision of limited operational support to the SADC Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo during its mandate, in line with Security Council resolution [2746 \(2024\)](#). MINUSCA provided training to national defence and security forces on the policy and on international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, enabling 24 rotations and deployments of the Armed Forces of the Central African Republic to protect civilians and secure the voter registration process. UNMISS streamlined its implementation of the policy by updating its standard operating procedure and rolling out an awareness-raising programme for all United Nations entities across South Sudan, leveraging the implementation to improve compliance with human rights standards. The policy and its implementation in country-specific contexts were covered in United Nations police command courses, including the policewomen command development course.

XI. Observations

127. Member States have continued to signal strong support for United Nations peacekeeping. United Nations peacekeepers continued, and will continue, to serve with courage and professionalism in some of the world's most unpredictable, insecure environments. Despite mounting threats, complex mandates and resource constraints, they remain steadfast in supporting political processes, protecting civilians, maintaining ceasefires and sustaining peace and security. Their commitment to the values of the Charter of the United Nations and the pursuit of sustainable peace deserves the full support of the international community. I pay tribute to their dedication, in particular to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice or suffered lasting harm, both physically and mentally, in the pursuit of peace.

128. For United Nations peacekeeping to support countries to take forward political processes that have the potential to lead to durable peace, Member States must step up. I call upon Member States, in particular those in the Security Council, to provide

strong and united support to advance peace processes wherever United Nations peacekeeping is working with the host country to take them forward.

129. As United Nations peacekeeping continues to operate in the face of a critical liquidity crisis, I have asked peacekeeping missions funded under the peacekeeping budget to reduce expenditure equal to 15 per cent of their 2025/26 budget in all areas, including uniformed components, civilian staff and operations. These reductions will have a significant impact on mandate implementation, including the protection of civilians. I call upon all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time. The ability of the United Nations to implement the mandates entrusted by Member States requires it. I also urge Member States to seize this moment to shape – together – the future of peacekeeping, to ensure that it remains fit for purpose and responsive to the needs of host States and the vulnerable populations served.

130. The United Nations marked its eightieth anniversary while standing at a pivotal juncture in reimagining its peacekeeping operations. The ongoing review on the future of all forms of United Nations peace operations, requested in the Pact for the Future, offers a timely opportunity to align peacekeeping operations with the evolving nature of conflict dynamics and political realities, allowing them to be fit for the future. Political support, clear mandates, tailored capabilities and adequate resources remain crucial to current and future peace operations. Through the UN80 Initiative, I am taking steps to strengthen the ability of the peace and security pillar to support peacekeeping operations in a more effective and cost-efficient manner.

131. The Action for Peacekeeping initiative and its implementation strategy, Action for Peacekeeping Plus, have galvanized collective support to strengthen peacekeeping through shared commitments. The United Nations remains committed to take this initiative forward. The next phase of the initiative will be launched by early 2026.
