

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
17 November 2014

Original: English

**Letter dated 14 November 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the
United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I am writing to you, in my capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, with regard to the forthcoming Security Council briefing on “Peacekeeping operations: the role of policing in peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding”, to be held on 20 November 2014. In connection with this issue, the Non-Aligned Movement believes that United Nations policing is an integral part of the United Nations peacekeeping operations and that the Security Council should not act in a way to encroach upon the mandate of the General Assembly, especially the mandate of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. In this context, allow me to bring to your kind attention paragraph 20 of the annual report of the Special Committee (A/68/19), which reads: “... The Special Committee [is] the only United Nations forum mandated to review comprehensively the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, including measures aimed at enhancing the capacity of the Organization to conduct United Nations peacekeeping operations ...”.

In this respect, I would like also to draw your kind attention, and through you that of all members of the Council, to the statement delivered on 28 October 2014 on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement in the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly under agenda item 52, entitled, “Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects”, which reflects the Non-Aligned Movement positions on peacekeeping (see annex).

I trust that the view of the Non-Aligned Movement expressed in this letter and its enclosure will be taken into consideration by the members of the Council in their deliberations and possible drafting of any document on the role of policing in peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) G. H. Dehghani

Ambassador

Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the

Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement



Annex to the letter dated 14 November 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement by the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco, Ambassador Omar Hilale, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement before the Special Political and Decolonization Committee, 28 October 2014

Item 52: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour of delivering this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

I would like to start by thanking the Under-Secretaries-General for Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support for their comprehensive briefings, and for their clear assessment of the progress made in peacekeeping activities in terms of concepts and operations, and their efforts to strengthen the United Nations peacekeeping operations as an important tool in the maintenance of international peace and security, and helping peoples emerging from conflict to achieve stability.

At the outset, the Non-Aligned Movement wishes to express its satisfaction with the results achieved during the last session of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The Movement will continue its positive engagement and will continue to show the utmost flexibility required to ensure the success of this session.

The Non-Aligned Movement wishes to emphasize the fact that the role of troop-contributing countries in the overall process of peacekeeping remains a top priority for the Movement, and intends to reflect this clearly in the coming session of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its report. We stress the importance of full participation of troop-contributing countries in policy formulation and decision-making to achieve the partnership required for the effectiveness of United Nations peacekeeping activities, as well as confirming that it is no longer sustainable for the troop-contributing countries to subsidize United Nations peacekeeping operations.

United Nations peacekeeping is reaching a crucial juncture as a result of the increased demand and the expansion and complexity of its tasks and mandates in dealing with responsibilities beyond the nature of its political and military roles and its ability of implementation. All these factors increase burdens on the capacity of the Organization and the countries contributing uniformed personnel to achieve the desired objectives.

The continuous increase in the activities of United Nations peacekeeping operations requires, inter alia, improved capacity to assess conflict situations, effective planning based on accurate information and rapid response to emergencies in accordance with the provisions of the Charter. Peacekeeping operations should not be used as an alternative to addressing root causes or managing conflict. It should be based on a comprehensive and coherent vision to be implemented through

political, social and developmental tools, in order to achieve and secure a smooth transition to lasting peace, security and sustainable development.

The Secretary-General, on 11 June 2014, during the Security Council open debate on trends in United Nations peacekeeping, announced that he had asked the Secretariat to initiate work on a review of United Nations peacekeeping, and he specified a few areas on which the review would be focused. The Non-Aligned Movement encourages the Secretariat to engage with Member States in order to define the scope, the modalities and the terms of reference of this important review.

In this context, the Non-Aligned Movement reaffirms that the development of concepts, policies and strategies must be done at the intergovernmental level and should run parallel to similar progress in increasing development, planning and oversight capacities. The Movement stresses that policy development in peacekeeping must be coupled with providing the necessary resources in order to guarantee the effective implementation of peacekeeping mandates.

Accordingly, the Movement reemphasizes its commitment to supporting all efforts aimed at achieving the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations, and reiterates the following:

First: The Non-Aligned Movement emphasizes that the establishment of any peacekeeping operation or extension of mandate of existing operations should strictly observe the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and those principles that have evolved to govern such operations and have become basic principles thereof, namely the consent of the parties, the non-use of force except in self-defence and impartiality. The Movement stresses that respect for the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, territorial integrity of all States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within their domestic jurisdiction should also be upheld in this regard.

Second: The importance of reaching consensus among Member States on the development of policies, and ensuring that only ideas and approaches that have been adopted by Member States collectively would be implemented. We call on the Secretariat to refrain from working on streams of policy that have not been agreed in an intergovernmental process. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations is the sole body in charge of policymaking in peacekeeping.

Third: Providing all necessary support to peacekeeping missions, including financial and human resources as well as military and civilian capabilities, in order to achieve the mission's tasks within a framework of full respect for the host country and its laws and regulations. In this context, it is also necessary to avoid changing the mandated tasks of peacekeeping missions without prior consultations with troop-contributing countries. Boots on the ground are the guarantors of the successful implementation of mandates; their advice is required for any change in mandates.

Fourth: Strong and clear Security Council commitment to drafting clear and achievable mandates, based on an objective assessment and without rushing into adopting mandates that lack a political basis or sufficient resources or are not practically achievable. The development of integrated planning and consistent approaches to achieve the link between policy formulation and implementation on the ground is paramount to achieving success.

Fifth: Emphasizing the importance of full participation of troop-contributing countries in policy formulation and decision-making to achieve the partnership and effectiveness required for United Nations peacekeeping missions. The Non-Aligned Movement underlines the need for an effective triangular cooperation between troop-contributing countries, the Secretariat and the Security Council.

Sixth: The use of force in a peacekeeping context predates the discussions on “effective peacekeeping”. The Non-Aligned Movement reiterates its position on the use of force by peacekeeping operations and emphasizes the need for further consultations with Member States on ways and means to protect peacekeeping missions from any breaches of safety of their personnel, according to the provisions of the Charter and relevant basic principles. The safety of the personnel is becoming a major concern for the troop-contributing countries with the growing number of losses and casualties.

Seventh: Paying more attention to the exit strategy, through increased efforts to settle the dispute as the main goal of the strategy.

Eighth: Enhancing integration between peacekeeping and peacebuilding, so that peacekeeping efforts are accompanied by economic recovery and capacity-building efforts, on the basis of national ownership. The Peacebuilding Commission and its country-specific configurations as well as the Peacebuilding Fund have a significant role to play in this regard, by engaging at an early stage. The objective should not be peacekeeping cost-cutting. It should rather be enhancing States’ potentials in order to avoid their relapse into conflict.

Ninth: The importance of protection of civilians where mandated and the need for peacekeeping to support national efforts in this regard, taking duly into consideration that the primary responsibility remains that of States to protect their civilians. This protection should not be used as a ground for military intervention by the United Nations in conflicts. The current lack of resources for peacekeeping operations and the difficulty of providing troops and equipment for military operations to carry out this extraordinarily difficult task should be particularly addressed.

Tenth: To support the activities of the police in United Nations peacekeeping operations, in light of their growing role and increased responsibilities, while ensuring that there is no duplication of tasks between the military and the police components.

Eleventh: The Non-Aligned Movement strongly believes that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the United Nations and that the role of regional arrangements should be in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter. The Movement calls for intensified United Nations support of the African Union’s operations by ensuring predictable and sustainable funding for these missions.

Twelfth: Continued extensive consultations on the implementation of the global field strategy, in order to ensure full support of our efforts to address the challenges of logistical and administrative support for peacekeeping operations. We look forward to achieving progress in addressing the issues of modularization, human resources management, procurement and service centres to ensure providing peacekeeping missions with high-quality field support service.

Thirteenth: The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations is the only body entitled to reviewing United Nations peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, yet it was evidently clear from the proceedings of the last session of the Committee that more political will is needed in order to ensure effectiveness and achieve the desired goals of the United Nations and troop contributors. Having the report of the Committee adopted, preferably by consensus, was and remains a top priority for the Movement.

Fourteenth: The Non-Aligned Movement welcomes the increase in rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries.

The Non-Aligned Movement, as the one group that has most if not all top military and police troop-contributing countries, continues to support peacekeeping operations and its member States keep increasing their contribution in military and police, as well as in civilian experts, to the United Nations peacekeeping missions. This represents a clear evidence of our commitment to efforts aimed at maintaining international peace and security.

I would like to conclude by paying tribute to the men and women of the United Nations who are carrying out their tasks to implement peacekeeping activities, as well as to those peacekeepers who have lost their lives in field operations, defending the flag of the United Nations and contributing to upholding the positive image of the Organization and its peacekeeping operations.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
