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Department of
Peace Operations

Current and Emerging Uniformed Capability Requirements for United Nations Peacekeeping

April 2023

Executive Summary

This Current and Emerging Uniformed Capability Requirements Paper is focused on the types of pledges of uniformed and related capabilities that are requested of Member States in association with the upcoming Peacekeeping Ministerial, to be held on 5 and 6 December 2023 in Accra, Ghana.



The Ghana UN Peacekeeping Ministerial is the continuation of the successful meetings at head of state, government or ministerial level held since 2015 on United Nations Peacekeeping. The 2023 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial will focus on achieving concrete outcomes to improve peacekeeping operations in line with ongoing reform efforts, in particular Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) and A4P+, including the Digital Transformation Strategy. Building on the success of previous Peacekeeping Ministerials and considering the evolving context in which peacekeeping operates, the 2023 Ministerial will contribute to strengthening UN peacekeeping through (i) the generation of high-performing and specialized capabilities and other pledges that meet UN needs, and (ii) new or expanded, sustainable capacity-building, training, and equipping partnerships in key areas.

A series of preparatory meetings hosted by the Ministerial Co-chairs will lead up to the 2023 Peacekeeping Ministerial. Each preparatory meeting will focus on specific areas and related objectives and outcomes. The meetings will focus on the protection of civilians, strategic communications (including mis- and disinformation and hate speech), safety and security, the mental health of peacekeepers, and women in peacekeeping.

Based on the A4P and A4P+ priorities, and the regular assessment conducted by the Secretariat, this edition of the UCRP aims to provide information on mid to long-term critical uniformed capability needs in our field missions, current gaps and other opportunities, such as training and capacity building, for Member States to contribute. We urge Member States to consider early pledging of units into the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (PCRS) that are in high demand and low supply, such as helicopter units (utility and attack), fixed wing aircraft, infantry battalions, explosive ordnance disposal units, and quick reaction force companies. Efforts by Member States to elevate current PCRS pledges to higher levels of readiness are also needed. Annex A (page 8) provides a good view on the estimates exiting gaps.

I. TRAINING

Training is a shared responsibility between the Member States and the UN Secretariat. It is the UN Secretariat's responsibility to provide policies, standards, and training materials, but Member States are relied upon to host the rollout and aid in disseminating these new and updated materials.

During this year, DPO will update the UN Staff Officer (UNSO) Specialised Training Materials (STM), the Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (CPTM), Formed Police Units STM, and develop new training materials on Force Protection. The UN Force Protection Training Materials will address existing and potential security and defence gaps during static deployments and mobile operations of military and police units. This training package will focus on proactive and reactive tactical planning to mitigate the risks of attacks against the UN troops. The new training materials will strengthen the existing STMs for UN Military Units of Engineers, EOD/IEDD, Logistics, Transport, Military Police, Signals, Riverine, FHQ, Special Forces, and UN Formed Police Units. The Force Protection training will also help units preserve the tactical freedom of movement and maintain their operational capabilities to effectively conduct their tasks. Member States are asked to pledge support for the roll-out and translation of these training documents.

For UN Police training, ITS is implementing the UN Police Training Architecture Programme. This programme includes designing and developing new materials in line with the Strategic Guidance Framework (SGF) for International Policing.



OPLOG Reinforcement Training Package TOT Course delivered in Switzerland

This training aims to equip UNPOL officers with the attitudes, skills and knowledge to meet the evolving challenges of UN Peace Operations and perform their specialist functions effectively, professionally and in an integrated way. As part of the SGF, three new job-specific training modules, "Community-oriented Policing", "Police Capacity-building and Development", and "Police

Monitoring, Mentoring and Advising", have been finalized. Additional support from Member States for the roll-out of these courses in 2024 is welcomed.

In partnership with Member States and in support of national trainers, ITS will continue delivering TOTs on UN National Investigation Officers, UN Engagement Platoons, UN Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence Officers Course, UN Peacekeeping-intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (PKISR), Operational Logistics (OPLOG) Reinforcement Training Package (RTP) and UN Individual Police Officers.

To increase the usability of the Pre-deployment Training materials, we request Member States' support in translating the new packages into the official United Nations languages. Pledges to host and financially support DPO-led courses, entirely or partially, are also needed.

II. CAPACITY BUILDING

The Secretariat is looking for Member States to offer training and capacity-building assistance (technical, financial, logistical (infrastructure) and equipment) to current or potential T/PCCs that can be coordinated by the Light Coordination Mechanism (LCM). Member States looking to provide these partnerships can contact Mr. Herbert Loret (loreth@un.org).

The LCM would like to thank those Member States that have already submitted nominations for the LCM roster of trainers for Member State provided Military Mobile Training Team activities. Interested Member States are invited to complete the registration form accessible here and to submit it to the Roster Manager, Ms. Heather Belrose at belrose@un.org with a copy to DPO-LCM@un.org along with the proposed participants' CV highlighting their specific training expertise/specialization, a scanned copy of the candidates' passport bio page, and a copy of the candidates' Covid-19 vaccination certificate. If not interested in nominating individual experts, the LCM would like Member States to consider nominating a capability instead. Those interested in doing so, should please provide the LCM with the full set of details for the capability (area of expertise, make-up of the personnel, tasks performed, certifications, etc.). Please feel free to reach out to DPO-LCM@un.org if you have any questions or wish to receive additional information.



Field Medical Assistants Course (FMAC) in Entebbe/Uganda

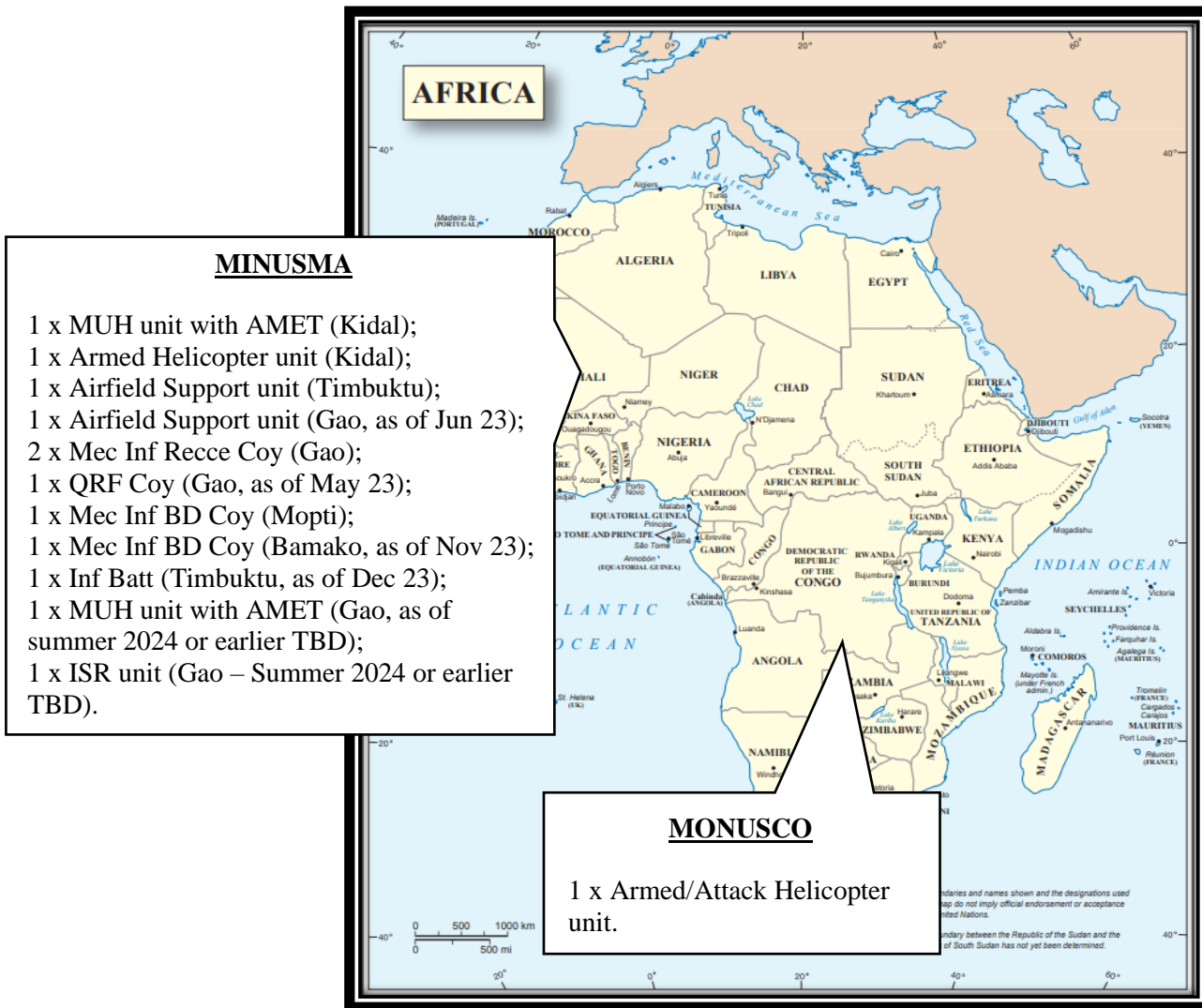
The Triangular Partnership Programme (TPP) enhances peacekeepers' capacities through the provision of training and operational support with four distinct projects: **1) Engineering,** **2) Medical,** **3) C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers (C4), Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)) and camp security technologies** and **4) Telemedicine.** The TPP welcomes the active participation of Member States in training in the abovementioned key peacekeeping capability areas, as well as, but not limited to, training in airfield/runway rehabilitation and environmental management, through the participation of trainees, the deployment of trainers, the provision of funds and other in-kind

support. Member States interested in training and partnership opportunities through the TPP can contact Mr. Takakazu Ito (itot@un.org). For more information, please consult the TPP Fact Sheet in [English](#) or [French](#).

III. MISSION-SPECIFIC UNIT GAPS

Real-time capability gaps remain in two of our largest missions, MINUSMA and MONUSCO. Pledges to support these immediate gaps can be made as soon as possible and still stated as pledges during the Peacekeeping Ministerial. Member States can make mission-specific pledges in the PCRS and go through an expedited Assessment and Advisory Visit process to confirm the readiness and preparedness of the pledge against the Statement of Unit Requirements prior to a final selection and invitation for deployment.

The list of mission-specific gaps remains dynamic and will change as T/PCCs make pledges and they are accepted for deployment, or the missions revise their capability requirements.



NB: Gaps are only removed from this list when existing pledges are officially accepted by DPO

MINUSCA is implementing an action plan for the enhancement of its peacekeeping-intelligence and early warning capacity, and we request Member States contributing troops and police personnel to select qualified personnel with experience from the requested Intelligence specialties (criminal, human, open-source, imagery analysis and acquisition management) as per the job descriptions, and that selected personnel are being provided with peacekeeping-intelligence course/training before deployment

IV. GENERAL CAPABILITIES

Military

Some of the most impactful pledges of military units will include:



Attack helicopter deployed in MINUSCA in 2017

- **Maneuvering units** - currently needed in our missions or are very likely to be needed in the near future: **infantry battalions at higher levels in the PCRS, quick reaction forces at company level and recce units at company level.** One relatively new requirement is the inclusion of an **engagement platoon** in all infantry units deployed in missions with Protection of Civilians mandates. Military units with appropriate **mine-resistant vehicles and APCs** are critical to strengthen the safety and security of peacekeepers. There is also a need for smaller vehicles, such as **high-mobility light tactical vehicles (HMLTV)** and **reconnaissance vehicles.**



Armed APCs operating in MINUSMA



Logistic Convoy in MINUSMA

- **Aviation units** - one of the most critical specialized capabilities deployed to peacekeeping. Its multiple functions contribute to mandate delivery through operational and logistics tasks, including support to the safety and security of peacekeepers. Well-equipped aviation assets are in high demand and short supply. **Attack, armed and medium utility helicopters; and tactical airlift aircrafts are the most important air assets Member States can contribute to the UN at the moment,** and many that have these capabilities have not registered these assets in the PCRS.

- **Logistic enabling units** — effective enabling units (e.g. multi-role engineers, transport, signals, and medical) to a mission cannot be overstated. This has been a critical point for missions in regions with limited transportation infrastructure and scarce local resources. **Transportation units with integrated force protection elements such as combat convoy units, and engineering construction and combat units are required.** Enabling units must be capable of protecting themselves autonomously. With the increasing number of demanding tasks, missions are not always able to spare infantry units or FPUs to protect military enabling units. **EOD/EID units** are also critical for the safety and security of peacekeepers and to guarantee the necessary safe movement of other peacekeepers.

Police

Member States should consider pledging:

- IPOs with expertise in countering organized crime, including environmental [rule of law] crime and terrorism; risk analysis; strategic and operational planning; data analytics and management; forensics; crime analysis; audit inspection; legal support; community-oriented policing; project management; sexual and gender-based violence; gender mainstreaming; electoral security; public information/strategic communications; and improvised explosive device risk awareness and mitigation; as well as support to IPO PCCs on pre-deployment training related matters (e.g. pre-SAAT);

- FPUs, particularly francophone and mixed gender units available for rapid deployment and equipped with state-of-the-art capabilities, including SWAT, rapid reaction, canine and riverine elements (i.e. two FPUs at rapid deployment level with SWAT capabilities, one of them being francophone). Capacity Builders to support FPU PCCs deployed in MINUSMA, MINUSCA, MONUSCO with pre-deployment training; additional, new, or changing COE to meet revised Statement of Unit Requirements (SUR); and assistance to FPU PCCs deploying to high-risk missions to enhance their gender-sensitive absorption capacities to meet parity targets;



FPU in MINUSCA

- Specialized Police Teams in community-oriented policing, environmental [rule of law] crime, public order management, border policing, protection of civilians and forensics; and

- Unmanned aerial vehicles to support policing activities in mission settings characterized by vast terrains and underdeveloped, irregular road networks; aerostat and live high resolution video feed capabilities; and personnel who are proficient in cybercrime investigations and cyber security.

Gender



Staff Officers in UNMISS

Key to the success of our mandate implementation is the participation of women at all levels in the UN's military and police components, both as individuals as well as part of formed contingents. All T/PCCs are asked to pledge to achieve the Secretary-General's Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy targets for 2023 and deploy a minimum women representation of 20% of UNMEM and SOs; 10% of contingent troops; 24% of IPO; and 13% of FPU. These percentages will increase for 2024, so Ministerial pledges should take that into consideration and be planned accordingly. All Infantry Battalions and Companies that are deployed in missions with protection of civilians responsibilities should include Engagement Platoons/Teams composed of 50 percent men and 50 percent women.

V. PCRS PLEDGES

The **PCRS is the entry point to commit uniformed capabilities to UN peacekeeping**. The system supports the Secretariat's selection process for deployments and targeted strategic engagement.

The below graphic displays the current capacity of deployable PCRS pledges (those at Level 2, 3 and RDL) as compared to the estimated required number of units for a new medium-to-large-scale mission.

Please note that the table also pints out what are estimated gaps for some critical capabilities. Although there appears to be a considerable number of available units, **in fact there is an insufficient number of units available to inform a successful selection process** as this mechanism has to consider initially the Member State's willingness to deploy to a particular mission and other relevant selection criteria such as geographical diversity, language skills, political sensitivities, and the ability to meet mission-specific Statement of Unit Requirements (SUR), that reduce the available units to fill the gaps.

ANNEX A

Overall capacity of PCRS pledges from level 2, 3 and RDL and gaps to an estimated ideal number of pledged units for a selection process of a medium-to-large scale mission

