

*The Security Council,*

*Recalling* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and bearing in mind its primary responsibility under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions and presidential statements addressing issues of peacekeeping,

*Underscoring* the importance of peacekeeping as one of the most effective tools available to the United Nations in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security,

*Reaffirming* the basic principles of peacekeeping, including consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force, except in self-defence and defence of the mandate, and *recognising* that the mandate of each peacekeeping operation is specific to the needs of the situation concerned and *underlining* that the mandates that it authorises that seek to tackle new challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, such as force protection and safety and security, protection of civilians, and asymmetric threats are consistent with the basic principles, and *reiterating* that the Security Council expects full delivery of the mandates it authorizes,

*Commending* the commitment of troop-and police-contributing countries and the sacrifices of uniformed and civilian personnel in implementing United Nations peacekeeping mandates in challenging environments, and reaffirming that the sustained commitment to operating in challenging environments is crucial for a peacekeeping mission's success and full implementation of peacekeeping mandates, including effective protection of civilians, where mandated,

*Expressing* grave concern about the security threats and targeted attacks against United Nations peacekeepers in many peacekeeping missions that constitute a major challenge to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and condemns in the strongest terms killing of and all acts of violence against United Nations personnel, which may constitute war crimes,

*Honouring* the heroic work of tens of thousands of United Nations peacekeepers, underscoring that the United Nations should not let the actions of a few tarnish the achievements of the whole,

*Welcoming* initiatives undertaken by the Secretary-General to mobilize all partners and stakeholders in support of more effective United Nations peacekeeping through his initiative "Action for Peacekeeping",

*Taking note* of the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (S/2015/446), the report of the Secretary-General entitled "The Future of United Nations Peace Operations: Implementation of the Recommendations of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations" (A/70/357-S/2015/682), the "External Review of Functions, Structure, and Capacity of the UN Police Division (2016)" and the "Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations Policing" (S/2016/952), and *noting* the report on "Improving Security of United Nations Peacekeepers", which highlights the link between the safety and security of peacekeepers and performance, and its plan of action, and *recognizing* that deficiencies in training, equipment and performance can increase risks to the safety and security of peacekeepers, including leading to increased risk of fatalities,

*Underscoring* the need to enhance the overall effectiveness and efficiency of United Nations peacekeeping through improved mission planning, increasing the numbers and fulfillment of pledges of capabilities and enablers, and increasing overall mission performance,

*Recognising* that realistic mandates and adequately resourced missions, peacekeepers that are well-trained, well-equipped, capable and willing to deliver their mandate, and strong leadership at all levels, including mission leadership, all contribute to peacekeeping performance,

*Underscoring* the link between performance and safety and security of peacekeepers and *recognizing* that institutionalizing a culture of performance in UN peacekeeping will promote better delivery of peacekeeping mandates, as well as lead to improvements in the safety and security of peacekeepers,

*Acknowledging* the importance of data-driven decision-making to improve the performance of UN peacekeeping, *and recalling* resolutions 2378 (2017) and 2382 (2017) and their request of the Secretary-General to ensure that data related to the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations, including peacekeeping performance data, is used to improve analytics and the evaluation of mission operations, based on clear and well identified benchmarks and *emphasizing* the need to regularly review all peacekeeping operations, and *noting* the work already initiated by the Secretariat in the setting up of a comprehensive and integrated performance policy framework measuring performance based on data collection and analysis,

*Recalling* the importance of the role of UN peacekeeping in protecting civilians, where mandated, and expressing deep concern regarding continued instances of underperformance, including inaction in the face of threats of physical violence against civilians, insufficient contingency planning to react to violence, conduct and discipline issues, risk averse leadership, lax force protection standards, poor operational readiness and preparedness, and poor integrated planning, and also *noting with concern* instances in which national caveats may have a detrimental effect on mandate implementation and performance,

*Encouraging* further coordination between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations on strengthening peacekeeping performance,

*Expressing* deep concern about the serious and continuous allegations and under-reporting of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeepers and non-United Nations forces authorized under a Security Council mandate, including military, civilian and police personnel, and underscoring that sexual exploitation and abuse, among other crimes and forms of serious misconduct, by any such personnel is unacceptable,

*Recalling* its resolution 2242 (2015), recognising the indispensable role of women in United Nations peacekeeping and welcoming efforts to incentivise greater numbers of women in military and police deployed in United Nations peacekeeping operations,

*Taking into account* its key role in strengthening United Nations peacekeeping and *stressing* the importance of effectively promoting global peace and security, and that posture, behavior, leadership, initiative, and accountability need to improve at all levels both at Headquarters and in the field,

1. *Reaffirms* its support for the development of a comprehensive and integrated performance policy framework that identifies clear standards of performance for evaluating all United Nations civilian and uniformed personnel working in and supporting peacekeeping operations that facilitates effective and full implementation of mandates, and includes comprehensive and objective methodologies based on clear and well defined benchmarks to ensure accountability for underperformance and incentives and recognition for outstanding performance, and specifies measures for performance accountability that include a range of responses proportionate to the identified performance failures, including, as appropriate, transparent public reporting, withholding reimbursement, and repatriating or replacing units, including the possibility of replacement by units from another troop- or police-contributing country from the Peacekeeping Capabilities Readiness System (PCRS);
2. *Urges* all troop-and police-contributing countries to meet UN performance standards for personnel, training, and equipping, and to support the effective implementation of mandated tasks while maintaining the highest standards of conduct and *calls on* the Secretary General to develop corresponding performance standards for civilian components of peacekeeping missions;
3. *Recognizes* that the effective implementation of peacekeeping mandates is the responsibility of all stakeholders and is contingent upon several critical factors, including well defined, realistic, and achievable mandates, political will, leadership, performance and accountability at all levels, adequate resources, policy, planning, and operational guidelines, and training and equipment;
4. *Recognizes* the need for enablers to bolster peacekeeping performance and *calls on* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to ensure that United Nations peacekeeping missions have capable and efficient enablers including airlift (MEDEVAC/VASEVAC) and adequate medical facilities and qualified personnel;
5. *Affirms* the need for peacekeeping missions with a mandate that includes the protection of civilians to ensure full mandate implementation, while recognizing the primary responsibility of host countries for the protection of civilians, and underlines that where mandated, peacekeepers are authorised to use all necessary means, which includes the use of force, in order to protect civilians under threat of physical violence, in accordance with the UN Charter and applicable international law, and *stresses* the importance of continued and further engagement by senior mission leadership, with a view to ensuring that all mission components and all levels of the chain of command are properly informed of, trained for, and involved in the mission's protection of civilians mandate and their relevant responsibilities, and *affirms further* the importance of coordination between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate and consistent with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, on issues relating to the protection of civilians in peacekeeping operations;
6. *Recognizes* the role of United Nations peacekeeping operations and in the protection of children, particularly the crucial role of child protection advisers in mainstreaming child protection and leading monitoring, prevention and reporting efforts in missions;
7. *Calls on* the Secretary-General to ensure United Nations peacekeeping missions have capable and accountable leadership, including through improving transparent selection processes that are based on merit, competence and the needs of the mission, and developing a cadre of experienced future candidates for senior leadership positions, taking into account geographic representation;

8. *Welcomes* the commitment of Member States to support improved training and capacity building activities to strengthen peacekeeping, *encourages* further activities in this regard, and welcomes the Secretary-General's commitment to implement a light coordination mechanism, within existing resources, to facilitate improved training and capacity building activities between Member States, to include troop- and police-contributing countries, providers of training and capacity building, and the United Nations, and encourages this mechanism to be made operational as soon as possible;

9. *Welcomes* initiatives of the Secretary-General to conduct Special Investigations into issues related to troop, police, and civilian personnel, including with regards to protection of civilians and cases of sexual exploitation and abuse, and *underlines* the importance of improving transparency on the findings of such investigations, as well as the potential of these Special Investigations to facilitate further engagement and dialogue between the United Nations, troop- and police-contributing countries, and other relevant stakeholders to improve performance and to ensure full implementation of peacekeeping mandates;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to act with urgency to initiate Special Investigations into significant instances of performance failures, including failure to protect civilians, where mandated, and *further requests* the Secretary-General to provide detailed reporting on the findings of these Special Investigations and any steps taken to address performance failures by uniformed and civilian components, including mission leadership and mission support personnel, if found in the course of the investigation, to the Security Council and Member States concerned, as appropriate;

11. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that data related to the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations, including peacekeeping performance data, is the basis for decisions regarding deployment, including through greater utilization of the PCRS, remediation, training, withholding of financial reimbursement, and repatriation, and calls on the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to improve analytics and evaluation of mission operations through implementation of the Operational Readiness Assurance and Performance Improvement Policy and commensurate policies for police in peacekeeping missions;

12. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's initiative to undertake regular strategic reviews of peacekeeping missions and requests the Secretary-General to ensure relevant findings of future Secretary-General commissioned reviews are shared with the Security Council alongside the Secretary-General's integrated analysis, strategic assessment and frank advice;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in reports to the Security Council on individual peacekeeping operations, a summary of actions taken to improve mission performance, including performance of uniformed personnel and civilian components, as well as any actions taken in line with paragraph 10 above;

14. *Underscores* that any form of sexual exploitation and abuse is unacceptable and *reaffirms* its support for the United Nations zero-tolerance policy on all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, and *welcomes* the Secretary-General's victim-centred approach and the Secretary-General's measures to strengthen the prevention, enforcement and remediation efforts against all forms of sexual misconduct, and *reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to include a

section on adherence to his zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse in all his reporting to the Security Council, both thematic and country-specific, and *urges* all troop- and police-contributing countries to redouble their efforts to take the steps necessary to vet and train their personnel and conduct investigations of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by their personnel and take appropriate steps to hold accountable those responsible, and *recognizes* the need to make further visible and measurable improvement on addressing sexual exploitation and abuse, and *expresses* concern regarding allegations of sexual harassment, and *affirms* its support for the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on all forms of sexual harassment;

15. *Encourages* Member States to provide training to all peacekeeping personnel to be deployed in UN peace operations in conflict and post-conflict zones on responding to trafficking in persons in the context of armed conflict, gender expertise, and assessing sexual violence in conflict as a component of pre-deployment training, and to ensure that these considerations are integrated into the performance and operational readiness standards against which uninformed units and personnel are assessed, and *further encourages* Member States to nominate individual military and police personnel to act as focal points on these areas;

16. *Recalls* its resolution 2242 (2015) and its request that the Secretary-General initiate, in collaboration with Member States, a revised strategy to double the numbers of women in military and police contingents of UN peacekeeping operations by 2020 and further requests that this strategy ensures the full, effective and meaningful participation of women in all aspects of peacekeeping, and that this revised strategy is presented to the Security Council by March 2019;

17. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.