



WIMUN SINGAPORE 2025

STUDY GUIDE

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF
PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

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Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

2024 substantive session
(New York, 19 February–15 March 2024)

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In her opening remarks, the Deputy High Commissioner said that the combination of current demographic realities and the pace of global change made young people the generation of our time, and the sustainable development generation. There were currently 1.8 billion young people worldwide, the most the world had ever seen, meaning that there could be no sustainable development without them and no sustained development if not for them. Young people were currently three times more likely to be unemployed, with 73 million of them looking for but not finding employment; when they did find work, they laboured in far more precarious conditions than adults, in the absence of equal pay for equal work. Some 27 million young people were migrants; far from their homes, travelling sometimes unaccompanied, often precariously, in flight from a life they believed they could not sustain and in search for a life of security and improved standards of living.

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[15 March 2024]

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0 Something to think about...

The report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations consists of five chapters, among which Chapter V discusses most of the substantive matters. Thus, delegates are encouraged to start reading this study guide from Chapter V.

Chapter V consists of sections A to J. Sections A and B provides more introductory and foundational structures and concepts of peacekeeping. The other eight sections are respectively divided into three subsections, namely "General context", "Reference to relevant United Nations guidance", and "Proposals, recommendations and conclusions". "General context" provides brief introduction to the work of the Special Committee. "Reference to relevant United Nations guidance" provides various United Nations guidance documents under different thematic areas. Delegates are encouraged to scan through the title of these documents to understand what has been done and to contemplate what should be done but hasn't been done by the United Nations. "Proposals, recommendations and conclusions" contain the most substantive contents and delegates should read these contents carefully.

Before starting, delegates should be aware that the question of peacekeeping is complicated. It not only involves country positions and stances but also institutional and operational details of the United Nations. While approaching the issue, delegates should think about whether the unsolved problems are a result of country stances, institutional operation, or simply unawareness. Sometimes, the unsolved problems may also be a result of mixed causes.

Chapter I

Introduction

1. By its resolution [77/302](#), the General Assembly welcomed the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations ([A/77/19](#)), decided that the Committee, in accordance with its mandate, should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfill its responsibilities in that field, and requested the Committee to submit a report on its work to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

Chapter II

Organizational matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

2. The Committee held its substantive session of 2024 at Headquarters from 19 February to 15 March. It held three plenary meetings.
3. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management. At the 277th (opening) meeting, on 20 February, the President of the General Assembly addressed the Committee. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peace Operations.
4. The Department of Peace Operations, the Department of Operational Support and the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance provided support to the Committee on substantive issues, while the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management served as the technical secretariat of the Committee.

B. Election of officers

5. At its 277th meeting, the Special Committee was informed that the delegation of Nigeria had announced its interest to continue to serve as Chair and would nominate its incoming Permanent Representative, once in place, for election to the position of Chair in due course.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Vice-Chairs:

Fabían Oddone (Argentina)
Richard Arbiter (Canada)
Iriya Takayuki (Japan)
Mateusz Sakowicz (Poland)

Rapporteur:

Wael Eldahshan (Egypt)

C. Agenda

7. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda (A/AC.121/2024/L.1), which read:
 1. Opening of the session.
 2. Election of officers.
 3. Adoption of the agenda.
 4. Organization of work.
 5. General debate.
 6. In-session briefings.
 7. Consideration of the draft report by the Working Group of the Whole.
 8. Other matters.

9. Adoption of the Committee's report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

8. The Committee also approved its draft programme of work (A/AC.121/2024/L.2).

D. Organization of work

9. Also at its 277th meeting, the Committee decided to establish a working group of the whole, to be chaired by Richard Arbeliter (Canada), to consider the substance of the mandate entrusted to the Committee by the General Assembly.

10. The composition of the Committee at its substantive session of 2024 is contained in annex I to the present report. The list of documents for the session is contained in A/AC.121/2024/INF/2 and the list of participants in document A/AC.121/2024/INF/4.

E. Proceedings of the Committee

11. At its 277th and 278th meetings, on 20 February, the Committee held a general debate on a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects. Statements were made by the representatives of Morocco (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), New Zealand (also on behalf of Canada and Australia), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Mexico), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (on behalf of the Group of Francophone Ambassadors to the United Nations), Indonesia (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), the European Union, Egypt, India, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Ecuador, Pakistan, Cuba, Viet Nam, Thailand, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, South Africa, Brazil, Iraq, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, Uruguay, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Guatemala, Sweden, the United States of America, Switzerland, China, Norway, Bangladesh, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Malaysia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Germany, the Russian Federation, Japan, Argentina, Nepal, Lebanon, Mexico, Togo, Nigeria, Cambodia and Israel.

12. Statements were also made by the observers for the International Organization of La Francophonie and the African Union.

13. A statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by Israel.

14. On 21 February, the Working Group of the Whole heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support, the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peace Operations and the Director of the Administrative Law Division of the Office of Human Resources in the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance.

15. On the same day, the Working Group of the Whole heard a briefing by the Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations.

16. The Working Group of the Whole and its two sub-working groups met from 21 February to 15 March and concluded their work on draft recommendations.

Chapter III

Consideration of the draft proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Working Group of the Whole

17. At its 279th meeting, on 15 March, the Special Committee decided to approve the intersessional decision of the Working Group of the Whole of 28 July 2023 that the general context sections of the Special Committee's annual report should be negotiated every three years starting in 2025 and could only be reopened in an off-cycle year by consensus. It also decided to include the text of that decision in the present report (see annex II).

18. At the same meeting, the Committee considered the recommendations and conclusions of the Working Group of the Whole at the 2024 session and decided to include them in the present report (see paras. 20–178) for consideration by the General Assembly.

Chapter IV

Adoption of the report to the General Assembly at its
seventy-eighth session

19. Also at its 279th meeting, the Committee adopted its draft report to the General Assembly, as introduced and orally revised by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

Chapter V

Proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee

Introduction

A.

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 Important concepts

The purposes and the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations are of crucial importance as they not only guide the work of the United Nations but represent the core values of the United Nations. Make sure you go through these purposes and principles and bear them in mind along with the position of the Member States you're representing while developing potential solutions to the issue!

20 Did you know that...

The core values of peacekeeping operations are in line with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, but the Charter does not have any provisions that specify how peacekeeping operations are carried out. In fact, Dag Hammarskjöld, the second UN Secretary-General described peacekeeping operations as "Chapter Six and a Half," implying that they are alternatives for balancing between the peaceful settlement of disputes and collective security measures against threats and breaches of the peace, stipulated respectively in Chapter Six and Seven of the Charter.

21/22 Something to think about

Why does the Special Committee pay tribute to the peacekeeping personnel right after reaffirming the purposes and principles of the United Nations? How does this practice align with the values of the United Nations?

23/26 Important concepts

While the Security Council is the one responsible for directing and controlling peacekeeping operations, the Special Committee is the one mandated to comprehensively review the whole question of peacekeeping operations. Delegates should be aware of the different roles of UN entities in peacekeeping operations.

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

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

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

B. Guiding principles, definitions and implementation of mandates

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 Did you know that...

In several reports and resolutions addressing issues related to international peace and security, the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs sometime claims that the provisions or contents in a report does not overtakes the primary responsibility of the Security Council for maintenance of international peace and security.

29/30 Something to think about

Why are these fundamental principles of essential importance in terms of peacekeeping operations? Do all the ongoing peacekeeping operations observe these principles? Are there any arguments from the host States accusing the United Nations of disrespecting these principles?

30 Important concepts

Consent of the parties, impartiality and the non-use of force except in self-defence and in the defence of a mandate authorized by the Security Council are the basic principles of peacekeeping that delegate should always bear in mind.

31 Something to think about

Why should not peacekeeping operations be used as a substitute to address root causes of conflicts? What are some fundamental differences between conflict prevention and conventional peacekeeping operations?

What are some political, social and developmental instruments used to address the root causes of conflict?

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

C. Conduct of peacekeepers and peacekeeping operations

General context

35. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

36. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on conduct of peacekeepers and peacekeeping operations of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports.

Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

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

- (a) Fuel management guideline (2023);
- (b) Environmental policy for peacekeeping operations and field-based special political missions (2022);
- (c) Waste Management Handbook for Peacekeeping Operations and Field-based Special Political Missions (2022);
- (d) Standard operating procedure for the development of wastewater management plans for peacekeeping and special political missions (2022);
- (e) Policy on integrating a human rights-based approach to United Nations efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse (2021);
- (f) United Nations Environmental Management Handbook for Military Commanders in United Nations Peace Operations (2021);
- (g) Sexual exploitation and abuse accountability framework (2021);
- (h) Water and Wastewater Manual for Peacekeeping and Special Political missions in the Context of Field Operations (2021);
- (i) Advancing a common understanding of a victim-centred approach to sexual harassment within the organizations of the United Nations (2021);
- (j) Standard operating procedures on boards of inquiry (2020);
- (k) Standard operating procedures on the prevention, investigation and prosecution of serious crimes committed against United Nations personnel in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2020);
- (l) United Nations protocol on the provision of assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse (2019);
- (m) Secretary-General's bulletin on the environmental policy for the United Nations Secretariat (ST/SGB/2019/7);

- (n) Standard operating procedure on environmental impact assessment for United Nations field missions (2019);
 - (o) Secretary-General's bulletin on addressing discrimination, harassment, including sexual harassment, and abuse of authority (ST/SGB/2019/8);
 - (p) United Nations system model policy on sexual harassment (2018);
 - (q) Policy on gender-responsive United Nations peacekeeping operations (2018);
 - (r) Secretary-General's bulletin on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations (ST/SGB/2017/2/Rev.1);
 - (s) Policy on accountability for conduct and discipline in field missions (2015);
 - (t) Human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces (2011);
 - (u) Standard operating procedure on the implementation of amendments on conduct and discipline in the model memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and troop-contributing countries (2011);
 - (v) Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13);
 - (w) Secretary-General's bulletin on Regulations Governing the Status, Basic Rights and Duties of Officials other than Secretariat Officials, and Experts on Mission (ST/SGB/2002/9);
 - (x) Secretary-General's bulletin on observance by United Nations forces of international humanitarian law (ST/SGB/1999/13).
- Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

38.

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

39. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that no personnel who have previously committed or who are under investigation for committing sexual exploitation and abuse are deployed on peacekeeping operations and to continue to take appropriate action to respond to credible evidence of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers. The Special Committee further requests that troop- and police-contributing countries continue to take robust action to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse through vetting and predeployment training and take concrete actions to investigate and hold perpetrators of sexual exploitation and abuse from their contingents accountable in a timely manner, including prosecution where appropriate. The Special Committee also requests the Secretariat to identify, including

38 Did you know that...

Sexual exploitation and abuse have become a significant issue in various ongoing peacekeeping operations. The United Nations has taken measures to address this challenge but such situations remain.

in consultation with Member States, further remedial measures that can be developed to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in peacekeeping operations.

40. The Special Committee continues to recommend that the Secretariat ensure that mandatory, effective, monitored and targeted training on sexual exploitation and abuse is implemented. In pursuit of this aim, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that only contingents that have completed the mandatory submission of relevant certification to the Secretary-General, confirming that all troop and police personnel have undergone relevant training and vetting and that no personnel who have been convicted of or are under investigation or prosecution for any criminal offence of a sexual nature, or any violation of international human rights law or international humanitarian law, are deployed. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat and all troop- and police-contributing countries to share best practices on how continuous training can prevent sexual exploitation and abuse. In addition, the Special Committee encourages missions to conduct regular in-field training, on-site evaluations and awareness-raising seminars, supplementary to the mandatory predeployment training on sexual exploitation and abuse, for troops, police, corrections personnel and civilians deployed to United Nations missions. Furthermore, the Special Committee observes that sexual exploitation and abuse can be committed even through digital or virtual platforms and recommends that awareness and instruction programmes for all stakeholders be made available by the Secretariat to discourage and prevent such activities.

41. The Special Committee reiterates that senior leadership have a key role to play in ensuring a culture of zero-tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse and in taking immediate action in response to cases of sexual exploitation and abuse. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to address shortcomings in the implementation of the zero-tolerance policy for sexual exploitation and abuse and to report thereon to the Special Committee. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide, before the next substantive session, an update on the performance of senior leadership across missions against their individual performance objectives for preventing misconduct, and on what the accountability measures are for when mission leadership are found to not have met their objectives. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure mission leadership are adequately disseminating the document entitled "Ten rules: code of personal conduct for blue helmets" to the full range of contingents in all missions.

42. The Special Committee urges continued efforts towards advancing a zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual exploitation and abuse. This includes preventive measures, investigating and holding perpetrators accountable in a timely and appropriate manner, addressing paternity claims, in line with national legislation, and providing support to victims through a victim-centred approach, in line with existing procedures. The Special Committee also underlines the responsibility of mission leadership at all levels, including senior leadership, to identify, monitor and manage the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, including through the use of the sexual exploitation and abuse risk management toolkit. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to identify and mitigate possible sexual exploitation and abuse risks relevant to the situation, noting the creation of targeted risk registers and workplans and the greater use of data in this regard, and to improve coordination across peacekeeping, development and humanitarian actors in the field, including by working on policy in collaboration with the Victims' Rights Advocate.

43. The Special Committee underscores the importance of the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on all forms of sexual harassment and urges the Secretariat and peacekeeping missions to provide all mission leaders and relevant officials responsible for investigation and discipline in United Nations missions with comprehensive sexual harassment training to ensure effective and appropriate

39 Something to think about

Considering the complicated composition of peacekeeping personnel, what measures may be taken to effectively reduce the sexual exploitation and abuse rate in peacekeeping operations?

responses to and investigations of claims. In this regard, the Special Committee requests an update from the Secretariat on the review of measures related to the prevention and response to sexual harassment implicating all personnel and on how these measures have been strengthened, prior to the next substantive session. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat, troop- and police-contributing countries, as appropriate, and missions to improve measures to prevent sexual harassment, to investigate and hold perpetrators accountable in a timely manner, in line with the model memorandums of understanding, and to provide support to victims, including medical, mental health and psychological support, in line with the United Nations system model policy on sexual harassment. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to draw on lessons learned from addressing sexual exploitation and abuse cases when addressing sexual harassment cases, including lessons from the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate, training and reporting mechanisms. The Special Committee request the Secretariat to provide a briefing on sexual harassment against peacekeepers.

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

45. The Special Committee notes the trend in the reporting of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse as United Nations peacekeeping operations draw down and requests the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the appropriate intergovernmental bodies to prevent gaps in support for victims and for children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse during and after mission drawdown.

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

47. The Special Committee reiterates its calls for the Secretariat to increase its efforts to implement the human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces, including through conducting risk assessments, adopting mission-specific standard operating procedures and establishing and ensuring the operationalization of mission-level mechanisms, within existing resources. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat take appropriate steps to raise awareness about and implement the human rights due diligence policy and related guidance in supporting non-United Nations security forces so as to ensure consistent and effective implementation. **The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to assure monitoring of the human rights due diligence policy, including in the context of peacekeeping transitions.** The Special Committee highlights that mission leadership is responsible for ensuring that these mechanisms are consistently and rigorously applied across all relevant mission activity. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to coordinate, in close coordination with the host States, where mandated, United Nations support to the security sector at the country level in order to safeguard and build on gains made by peacekeeping operations. Furthermore, the Special Committee requests the Secretary-General, prior to its next substantive session, to provide an update on the implementation of the human rights due diligence policy and to address challenges identified in the report of the Secretary-General.

47 Something to think about

How to ensure the observance of international human rights law and international humanitarian laws? What are some human rights due diligence policies implemented by the United Nations?

48. The Special Committee reiterates the shared commitment of Member States to sound environmental practices and to employing environmentally responsible solutions for all operations and mandate delivery through, inter alia, the deployment of units trained in environmental awareness and of environmental focal points to fulfil their role in good environmental stewardship and the provision of capacity and expertise in environmental management, and requests the Secretariat to continue to develop specialized training materials for peacekeepers aimed at enhancing environmental awareness and practices at all levels. The Special Committee further encourages greater efforts to reduce the environmental footprints of missions in the field, including through the use of low- and zero-emission energy resources, renewable resources, clean technology and green solutions and the elimination of single-use plastics, where possible, and to promote the use of environmentally friendly material, in order to achieve more efficient use of energy and water, reduce waste production and usage of plastics, where applicable, encourage home-grown environmental solutions, and improve the health, safety and security of local communities and United Nations personnel in order to leave a positive legacy in the field. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to implement measures to track and report non-renewable energy sources use and demand in missions to better facilitate planning for future renewable energy sources.

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

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

D. Partnerships

General context

51. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

48/49 Interesting facts

While the relationship between peacekeeping operations and environmental issues may seem weak, interestingly, environmental concerns including the promotion of renewable energy are considered by the Special Committee. For instance, UNMISS (United Nations Mission in South Sudan) in 2019 piloted the Environment Risk Assessment on the field to identify wastewater risk. The installation of solar PV panels by MINUSCA (United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic) serves as another great example. The reliance on diesel generators is reduced and saves approximately USD 168,000 in terms of fuel cost. Although the Special Committee did not elaborate more details or provide specific case studies, there are several academic papers sharing novel views regarding peacekeeping and environment and/or renewable energy. Those interested may access these papers from Google Scholar. Besides, the use of renewable energy may reduce the need to transport fossil fuels on dangerous roads for peacekeepers. It is not only about environmental concerns but also the safety of peacekeepers and the long-term sustainability for peacekeeping operations.

52. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on partnerships of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports.

Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

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

(a) Manual on Policies and Procedures concerning the Reimbursement and Control of Contingent-Owned Equipment of Troop/Police Contributors Participating in Field Missions (2023) (A/78/87);

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

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

(d) United Nations Procurement Manual (2020);

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

(f) Human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces (2011).
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54.

The Special Committee stresses the need for continued efforts to strengthen cooperation between the host States and United Nations peacekeeping missions to support a common understanding of the United Nations role, mandate and capacities.

55. The Special Committee emphasizes the role of missions in providing justice and corrections support to national authorities, where mandated, to enhance the authorities' capacity to ensure judicial due process and the safe, secure and humane detention of those apprehended, and recommends that the Secretariat support such efforts.

56. The Special Committee requests a briefing on the role, activities and contribution of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Policing to United Nations peacekeeping before the next substantive session of the Committee.

57. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to foster engagements with regional and subregional and relevant international organizations to strengthen partnerships, with an emphasis on regional and subregional dynamics, exchange of best practices and lessons learned, coherent planning and operational complementarity at the field level, enhancing of training programmes and strengthening capacity-building initiatives, so as to ensure mutual understanding of the opportunities and challenges for collaboration in peace operations. Furthermore, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to submit suggestions on how to foster such engagements before its next substantive session.

58. The Special Committee encourages close and proactive collaboration between the United Nations and national, regional and international peacekeeping training networks, initiatives and institutions to facilitate improved training outcomes and opportunities, including for women peacekeepers. The Special Committee encourages

54 Something to think about

What is the role of host States in peacekeeping? What are some ways to strengthen the cooperation between the host States and United Nations peacekeeping missions?

55 Something to think about

How may peacekeeping missions contribute to national capacity building in terms of ensuring judicial justice?

55 Interesting facts

Judicial justice has appeared in various international documents including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (art. 11), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (art. 9), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Sustainable Development Goal 16). However, judicial justice is still far from perfect in most countries.

Member States to seek United Nations accreditation for relevant training courses, reiterates its request to the Secretariat to expedite the process of providing such accreditation, and to explore the possibility of online accreditation.

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

60. The Special Committee stresses the importance of the Secretariat identifying dedicated capacity to engage in United Nations coordination platforms with a view to encouraging joint planning and programming, in the context of peacekeeping.

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

62. The Special Committee welcomes further advancement of the triangular partnership programme. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat and relevant stakeholders, including Member States, as appropriate, to continue to expand the programme, including through the provision of training and equipment and to conduct further needs analysis to ascertain evolving training and capability gaps and required skills for partnered peacekeeping deployments. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continuously engage with missions to ensure that triangular partnership programme activities are well aligned with mission-level requirements and help to improve the performance of peacekeeping operations. In this regard, the Special Committee also encourages Member States to continue to provide extrabudgetary funding, trainers, equipment and other in-kind support to the key peacekeeping-enabling areas, including but not limited to engineering, field medicine, environmental, counter-improvised explosive devices and communication capabilities, C4ISR and camp security technologies, and telemedicine.

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

59 Something to think about

Besides the approaches mentioned in the report, are there any other innovative approaches that may be beneficial to peacekeeping operations partnerships?

61 Something to think about

What are some obstacles for establishing regional cooperation networks? How to ensure the regional cooperation networks cater to the demand of Member States?

63 Interesting facts

Delayed payment of troop- and police-contributing countries are said to have an adverse effect on their sustainable contribution. This phenomenon can be attributed to the lack of funding for updating equipment. With inadequate equipment, peacekeepers are exposed to greater risks and the operations may be ineffective.

64. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to work with the African Union, African subregional organizations and relevant troop- and police-contributing countries to capture best practices and operational lessons learned from African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Security Council in order to **identify areas of complementarity and comparative advantage**. In this regard, the Special Committee welcomes the revitalization of the knowledge and expertise exchange programme and requests a briefing on its implementation to the Special Committee before the Committee's next substantive session.

65. The Special Committee reaffirms the importance of partnerships and cooperation between the United Nations and regional, subregional and relevant international organizations and arrangements. Recognizing the ongoing crisis in Haiti and the unique situation on the ground, and without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee notes the ongoing efforts to form and deploy the Multinational Security Support Mission to Haiti, authorized by the Security Council and not under the auspices of the United Nations, welcomes the pledges made by Member States in the form of financial, personnel and in-kind commitments and the establishment of the United Nations Trust fund for the mission, and encourages further pledges.

United Nations-African Union cooperation
Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

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

- (a) Joint declaration on cooperation for African Union peace support operations (2018);
- (b) Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security (2017).
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67. The Special Committee commends the crucial role of the African Union and African subregional organizations and arrangements in efforts to prevent, mediate and settle conflicts on the African continent, and their contribution to peacekeeping efforts in the region, particularly in dangerous environments where unconventional threats exist. The Special Committee welcomes the close cooperation on peace and security between the United Nations and the African Union, in line with the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, and further expresses its support for the efforts of the two organizations to further develop a sustainable, more systematic and strategic partnership adapted to the complex security challenges facing the continent, in particular for conflict prevention and capacity-building. The Special Committee recognizes that the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union remains vital to achieving the peacekeeping mandates of missions deployed in Africa, including by providing technical support to the African-led peace support operations and facilitating and supporting political processes and other mandated tasks. The Special Committee takes note of the adoption by the Security Council of resolution **2719 (2023)** on the financing of African Union-led peace support operations. The Special Committee welcomes the progress made by the African Union on the revised framework for compliance and accountability with respect to international humanitarian and human rights law, notes the tripartite project in support of the African Union Compliance Framework, and requests the Secretariat to render its full support to this process and

64 Something to think about

The African Union, especially its Peace and Security Council, and the United Nations Security Council both play profound roles in peacekeeping in Africa. What are their areas of complementarity and comparative advantage in peacekeeping?

66 Something to think about

Why is there a specific section dedicated to the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union? What characteristics are shared by peacekeeping operations in African States?

to provide a briefing to the Special Committee on the progress made before its next substantive session. The Special Committee welcomes the adoption of the African Union doctrine on peace support operations, and further welcomes its policies on conduct and discipline and on prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse. The Special Committee welcomes the progress towards the full operationalization of the African Standby Force and its enablers and notes the decisions of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to review and reconceptualize the African Standby Force concept with a view to ensuring its alignment with the African Union doctrine on peace support operations.

68. The Special Committee welcomes the seventeenth annual joint consultative meeting between the members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and the Security Council of the United Nations, held in Addis Ababa in October 2023, takes note of the joint communiqué, and further notes the seventh United Nations-African Union annual conference gathering the leadership of the two organizations, held in Addis Ababa on 8 November 2023, during which mutual support between United Nations and African Union peace support operations was discussed.

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

70. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General, in his next annual report, to provide information on the Secretariat's efforts to support African Union-led peace support operations, as appropriate and in line with relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions, including information on any challenges and necessary changes in Secretariat structures to support such operations.

E. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

General context

71. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

72. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on peacebuilding and sustaining peace of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports. Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

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

- (a) Policy on integrated assessment and planning (2023);
- (b) Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards module 5.40, cross-border population movements (2023);

E Something to think about

What are some fundamental differences between the concept of (conventional) peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and sustaining peace?

If peacebuilding and sustaining peace are not a part of peacekeeping, why are they included in this report on peacekeeping?

- (c) Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards module 6.10, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and security sector reform (2023);
- (d) Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards module 6.20, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and transitional justice (2023);
- (e) Non-staff capacities: overview (2022);
- (f) Policy on the functions and organization of the Standing Police Capacity (2021);
- (g) Policy on the functions and organization of the United Nations Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity (2021);
- (h) Standard operating procedure on community violence reduction in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes (2021);
- (i) Standard operating procedure on monitoring and evaluation for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (2021);
- (j) United Nations community engagement guidelines on peacebuilding and sustaining peace (2020);
- (k) Guidelines for specialized police teams on assignment with United Nations peace operations (2019);
- (l) Guide for senior leadership on field entity closure (2019);
- (m) Effective Weapons and Ammunition Management in a Changing Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Context: Handbook for United Nations Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Practitioners (2018);
- (n) Policy on quick-impact projects (2017);
- (o) Guidelines on quick-impact projects (2017);
- (p) Guidelines on engagement with civil society (2017);
- (q) Guidelines on mandated programmatic activities funded through peacekeeping assessed budgets (2017);
- (r) Manual on police monitoring, mentoring and advising in peace operations (2017);
- (s) Policy on justice support in United Nations peace operations (2016);
- (t) Guidelines on police capacity-building and development (2015);
- (u) Policy on prison support in United Nations peace operations (2015);
- (v) Guidelines on understanding and integrating local perceptions in United Nations peacekeeping (2014);
- (w) Policy on United Nations police in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2014);
- (x) Standard operating procedures for Government-provided corrections personnel on assignment with United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2014);
- (y) Guidelines on reinsertion programmes (2014);
- (z) Policy on reinsertion programmes (2014);
- (aa) Policy on United Nations transitions in the context of mission drawdown or withdrawal (2013);

(bb) Prison Incident Management Handbook (2013);

(cc) Policy on defence sector reform (2011);

(dd) Policy on human rights in United Nations peace operations and political missions (2011).

Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

74.

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

75. The Special Committee underlines the important contributions made by all standing capacities in several peacekeeping contexts, including transition contexts. Considering the ongoing evolution in the peacekeeping environment, the Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to conduct, within existing resources, an evidence-based analysis of the use and operations of the standing capacities and other relevant mechanisms of the United Nations, as well as of their coordination, and further requests a briefing on the status of this matter prior to the next substantive session of the Committee.

76. The Special Committee, while recognizing that it is host States that lead efforts to ensure that the needs and participation of all segments of society, in particular women and young people, are taken into account in building and sustaining peace, emphasizes that **inclusivity is key for more successful and sustainable solutions**, and recognizes that mediation, consultation, dialogue, conflict prevention, peacebuilding and resolution efforts are more successful and sustainable when they are inclusive. In this respect, the Special Committee continues to encourage the Secretariat, peacekeeping missions and United Nations country teams to support national authorities in their efforts, including by promoting the inclusion and engagement of all segments of society, **in particular women and young people**, in the implementation of peacekeeping mandates through consultative processes and, where mandated, in enhancing their capacities to engage in the process of peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Recognizing the role of young people in preventing and resolving conflicts and in sustaining peace, the Special Committee supports enhanced partnership with relevant United Nations entities, regional organizations and civil society in order to enhance the capacities of youth in the field of peace and security. In this regard, the Special Committee underscores the need for the full, effective and meaningful participation of youth in peacebuilding as an important factor in the sustainability of efforts to build and sustain peace. The Special Committee takes note of the development of the United Nations community engagement guidelines on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and requests that the Secretariat continue to provide updates to the Committee on the engagement of local communities and local

74 Something to think about

How to strengthen the coordination and coherence between relevant factors in order to integrate all efforts while considering national priorities?

76 Something to think about

How to ensure inclusiveness of communication in all forms in terms of peacebuilding and sustaining peace?

76 Something to think about

The participation of women and young people are essential to peacebuilding and sustaining peace. However, not all Member States share the same stances on this. What are some factors that lead to the variation of stances of Member States on the roles of women and young people in peace-related activities?

actors by field missions and the impact that this has had on the delivery of missions' objectives. The Special Committee further requests the Secretary-General to provide guidance to peacekeeping operations on how missions can better support community-based mechanisms and take into account local needs with a view to supporting sustainable political solutions, where mandated.

77. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to share lessons and best practices with respect to how United Nations peacekeeping operations, where mandated, promote inclusive community dialogue to sustain peace.

78. The Special Committee recognizes the challenges associated with transitions and encourages the Secretariat, United Nations peacekeeping operations, resident coordinators, United Nations country teams and other relevant actors to work closely with host States to ensure that strategic and operational decisions concerning transitions take into account the preparedness of host governments and other relevant national stakeholders with a view to safeguarding peace gains and promoting further progress. The Special Committee, in this context, requests the Secretariat and missions to allocate sufficient and specialized transition planning capacities, including political expertise, to allow missions and United Nations country teams to plan and implement transitions proactively and in an integrated manner, in coordination with host States. The Special Committee also requests that the Secretariat provide a briefing, before the next session of the Committee, on the advances made in reinforcing transition planning capacities.

79. The Special Committee encourages Member States to make full use of the **Peacebuilding Commission**, in accordance with its mandate, especially in the context of transitions. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to incorporate lessons learned from transitions into their inputs for the 2025 review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, in line with its terms of reference.

80. The Special Committee continues to encourage the Secretariat to plan for United Nations mission transitions as integrated within the wider country-specific transition to peace and to elaborate transition strategies early, well before the drawdown of a peacekeeping mandate, in close and timely consultation with host States and informed by stakeholders at all levels, and to reassess periodically during the lifetime of a mission, in accordance with each peacekeeping mission's respective mandate. The Special Committee calls for engagement at the earliest possible stage, as appropriate, in integrated planning and coordination on transitions with the resident coordinator and the United Nations country team, in close coordination with the host State authorities and all other national stakeholders, including civil society and international financial institutions, where appropriate, along with early engagement on the gradual handover, where appropriate, of responsibilities to national authorities, including by conducting regular joint assessments of progress in developing the relevant capacities and capabilities of host State institutions. The Special Committee also encourages the Secretariat to strengthen policies and procedures to ensure the preservation and timely transfer of knowledge, data and capacities to successor entities, resident coordinators and United Nations country teams during peacekeeping transitions. The Special Committee also requests the Secretariat to organize a briefing on lessons learned from past transitions, and encourages the Secretariat to strengthen the implementation and further development of relevant United Nations transition policies and directives. The Special Committee also urges the Secretariat and its field missions to utilize lessons learned from transitions and to continue to develop and implement coordination mechanisms for field missions and United Nations country teams in order for them to work closely together on joint objectives and priorities prior to transitions, including by strengthening connections with existing planning processes, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation

79 Something to think about

What is the Peacebuilding Commission and its relation with the General Assembly and with the Security Council? What are the mandates of the Peacebuilding Commission? How may such a mandate be used to foster robust transitions?

Frameworks and common country analyses, and with the work of the wider peacebuilding architecture, notably the Peacebuilding Commission, as appropriate.

81. The Special Committee encourages strengthened coherence within the United Nations in planning, including transition planning, throughout mission life cycles, and recognizes the importance of enhanced integration between the Secretariat and the broader United Nations presence on the ground. The Special Committee supports the optimal alignment between peacekeeping, humanitarian and development activities by relevant United Nations entities, and calls upon them to ensure appropriate joint analysis, planning and programming. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to present options to the Special Committee before its next session on how a proactive, integrated transition planning capacity can be supported by the United Nations.

82. The Special Committee notes that the most recent report of the Secretary-General on United Nations policing was issued in 2018 and requests the Secretariat, in coordination with other relevant United Nations stakeholders, to provide a briefing on the future of United Nations policing prior to the next substantive session of the Committee.

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

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

85. The Special Committee welcomes the Peacebuilding Commission's advisory, bridging and convening roles in support of nationally owned priorities and in mobilizing support for national peacebuilding activities. The Special Committee

81 Something to think about

What are some relevant United Nations entities that may engage in peacekeeping, humanitarian, and development affairs? How to coordinate the work of these entities to enhance the alignment of actions?

83 Something to think about

The Rule of law is an indispensable part of peacebuilding. What may the missions and Member States do to ensure the rule of law?

83 Interesting facts

While peace and security, development, and human rights are often referred to as the three pillars of the United Nations, the rule of law is sometimes considered the fourth pillar of the United Nations according to the Model UN website of the United Nations.

In addition, the rule of law, along with the state and democratic accountability, is considered the three basic components of modern political order, as suggested by renowned political scientist Francis Fukuyama.

84 Something to think about

How to support individuals voluntarily leaving armed groups?

emphasizes the importance of the provision of specific, strategic and targeted advice by the Commission to the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council with a view to promoting a coherent, coordinated, integrated and strategic approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, including in peacekeeping and transition settings. In particular, noting the Security Council's acknowledgement of the importance of strong coordination, coherence and cooperation with the Peacebuilding Commission and its expressed intent in a presidential statement dated 21 December 2017 (S/PRST/2017/27) to regularly request, deliberate on and draw upon the specific, strategic and targeted advice of the Peacebuilding Commission, including to assist with the longer-term perspective required for peacebuilding being reflected in the formation, review and drawdown of peace operations, the Special Committee continues to encourage the Commission, in formulating its written advice to the Security Council, as appropriate, and in accordance with their respective mandates, to mainstream feedback coming from host States with a view to fostering a more coherent, inclusive and nationally owned approach to peacebuilding in peacekeeping and transition settings and the field in terms of implementation challenges with respect to peacebuilding and transition processes in the mandate renewal and future planning cycles. The Special Committee encourages greater coherence on peacebuilding issues between the Peacebuilding Commission and other relevant United Nations bodies, including the Special Committee. The Special Committee further requests a briefing by the Commission prior to its next session focused on strengthening the coherence of peacebuilding activities in peacekeeping.

86. The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolutions 76/305 and 78/257, noting the progress made in financing for peacebuilding by the entire United Nations system while recognizing that **financing for peacebuilding remains a critical challenge**, and noting the General Assembly's affirmed commitment and recent decisions to consider all options for adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding, including through voluntary, innovative and assessed funding and other means of resource mobilization. In this regard, the Special Committee welcomes the adoption of General Assembly resolution 78/257 on the use of assessed contributions for the Peacebuilding Fund starting on 1 January 2025.

87. The Special Committee recalls that **assessed funding is not meant to be a substitute for voluntary contributions and innovative funding**, and notes that the Secretary-General will conduct a comprehensive study of innovative and other means of resource mobilization, as well as options for attaining more non-monetary contributions. The Special Committee also notes the significance non-monetary contributions can play in peacebuilding efforts. The Special Committee encourages all Member States, international financial institutions and other partners, to consider increasing their contributions to peacebuilding and sustaining peace activities in conflict-affected countries and regions, and stresses the importance of multi-year, flexible and risk-tolerant funding commitments, including pooled funding. The Special Committee further encourages collective efforts, in collaboration with host States, to mobilize public resources, foster South-South and triangular cooperation, **spur private investment** and explore innovative financing mechanisms for peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify resource mobilization efforts in this regard.

88. The Special Committee encourages the Peacebuilding Fund to work in support of national peacebuilding priorities, and in close coordination with relevant stakeholders, to advance efforts to bring greater coherence to peacebuilding efforts. The Special Committee underscores the importance of transition finance plans established at an early stage, and stresses the importance of sufficient funding to support peacebuilding activities during transitions and throughout the life cycle of peacekeeping operations.

86 Something to think about

What are the solutions proposed to deal with the critical challenge of financing peacebuilding activities? What are the advantages and disadvantages of these solutions?

87 Something to think about

What's the difference between assessed funding, voluntary contributions, and innovative funding?

87 Something to think about

South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation are two significant modes of cooperation in the context of development. How may these two types of cooperation contribute to the financing and funding of peacekeeping operations? How may these cooperation modes spur private investment?

89. The Special Committee takes note of the launch of the Peacebuilding Impact Hub and ongoing efforts to develop its dedicated online platform, and requests the Secretariat to provide guidance to Member States and peacekeeping stakeholders on how to utilize the hub to foster a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of the impact of peacebuilding interventions and practice in the context of peacekeeping.

F. Performance and accountability

General context

90. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

91. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on performance and accountability of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports.
Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

92.

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

- (a) Policy on integrated assessment and planning (2023);
- (b) Guidelines on the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (2023);
- (c) Guidelines on the rapid deployment level of the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (2023);
- (d) Integrated Peacekeeping Performance and Accountability Framework (2023);
- (e) Manual on Policies and Procedures concerning the Reimbursement and Control of Contingent-Owned Equipment of Troop/Police Contributors Participating in Peacekeeping Missions (2023) (A/78/87);
- (f) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Unit Manual (2022);
- (g) Standard operating procedure for Member State-provided military mobile training teams (2022);
- (h) Standard operating procedure on the assessment and evaluation of formed police unit performance (2022);
- (i) Administrative instruction on evaluation in the United Nations Secretariat (2021) (ST/AI/2021/3);
- (j) Guide on coronavirus disease (COVID-19) aviation-related containment strategies for prevention and mitigation (2021);
- (k) Guidelines on conducting peacekeeping training needs assessments (2021);
- (l) Standard operating procedure on assessment for mission service of individual police officers (2021);

- (m) Standard operating procedure on the handling of detention in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2021);
- (n) Strategy for the digital transformation of United Nations peacekeeping (2021);
- (o) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Aviation Unit Manual (2021);
- (p) Policy on the Functions and Organization of the Standing Police Capacity (2021);
- (q) Guide and instructions on patient transfer in United Nations contracted air operations in relation to COVID-19 (2020);
- (r) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Unit Manual (2020);
- (s) Policy on guidance development (2020);
- (t) Policy on knowledge management and organizational learning (2020);
- (u) Policy on joint mission analysis centres (2020);
- (v) United Nations Infantry Battalion Manual (2020);
- (w) United Nations Manual on Ammunition Management (2020);
- (x) United Nations Military Engineer Unit and Counter-explosive Threat (CET) Search and Detect Manual (2020);
- (y) Guidelines on combined military and police coordination mechanisms in peace operations (2019);
- (z) Guidelines on joint operations centres (2019);
- (aa) Guidelines on special investigations (2019);
- (bb) Guidelines on specialized police teams on assignment with United Nations peace operations (2019);
- (cc) Guidelines on the award of risk premium (formed units) (2019);
- (dd) Guidelines on the design, delivery and evaluation of training (2019);
- (ee) Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence Handbook (2019);
- (ff) Policy on authority, command and control in United Nations peacekeeping operations (2019);
- (gg) Policy on joint operations centres (2019);
- (hh) Policy on weapons and ammunition management (2019);
- (ii) Standard operating procedures on loss of weapons and ammunition (2019);
- (jj) Standard operating procedure on the assessment for mission service of individual police officers (2019);
- (kk) Guidelines on operational readiness preparation for troop-contributing countries in peacekeeping missions (2018);
- (ll) Secretary-General's bulletin on the delegation of authority in the administration of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the Financial Regulations and Rules (ST/SGB/2019/2) (2018);
- (mm) Standard operating procedure on contract performance reporting (2018);

- (nn) Secretary-General's bulletin on the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations (ST/SGB/2013/4, ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1, ST/SGB/2015/4 and ST/SGB/2015/4/Amend.1) (2018);
- (oo) Guidelines on aviation safety assurance (2017);
- (pp) Guidelines on the use of force by military components in United Nations peacekeeping operations (2017);
- (qq) Policy on planning and review of peacekeeping operations (2017);
- (rr) Standard operating procedure on the assessment of operational capability of formed police units for service in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2017);
- (ss) Guidelines on police administration in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2016);
- (tt) Guidelines on police command in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2016);
- (uu) Policy on aviation safety (2016);
- (vv) Policy on formed police units in United Nations peacekeeping operations (2016);
- (ww) Policy on operational readiness assurance and performance improvement (2016);
- (xx) Policy on records management (2016);
- (yy) Standard operating procedures on evaluation of force headquarters in peacekeeping operations (2016);
- (zz) Standard operating procedures on force and sector commanders' evaluations of subordinate military entities in peacekeeping operations (2016);
- (aaa) Standard operating procedure on boards of inquiry (2016);
- (bbb) Guidelines on police operations in United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2015);
- (ccc) Policy on national support element (2015);
- (ddd) Guidelines on the mission concept (2014);
- (eee) Manual on Surface Transport Management in the Field (2014);
- (fff) Movement Control Manual (2014);
- (ggg) Policy on internal evaluations and inspections of United Nations police (2014);
- (hhh) United Nations Force Headquarters Handbook (2014);
- (iii) Policy on Headquarters self-evaluation (2013);
- (jjj) Policy on military capability study (2013);
- (kkk) Policy on mission evaluation (2013);
- (lll) Policy on contract management (2012);
- (mmm) Policy on human rights screening of United Nations personnel (2012);
- (nnn) United Nations aviation standards for peacekeeping and humanitarian air transport operations (2012);

(ooo) Policy on civil-military coordination in United Nations integrated peacekeeping missions (2010);

(ppp) Policy on training for all United Nations peacekeeping personnel (2010);

(qqq) Policy on support to military and police predeployment training for United Nations peacekeeping operations (2009);

(rrr) Standard operating procedure on training recognition (2009).

Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

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

94. The Special Committee notes the mission-wide implementation of the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System and requests the Secretariat to further make use of and expand relevant training for mission staff to build their skills, so as to enable more effective and integrated planning and mandate delivery. The Special Committee further recommends that the Secretariat, in collaboration with mission leadership, continue to monitor the ongoing implementation of the System to improve peacekeeping performance against mandated tasks, including feedback from all relevant uniformed personnel in the mission, in all United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat and missions to improve the evaluation of the contributions of mission substantive civilian components to mandate implementation, and calls upon mission senior leadership to fully utilize data and trends to make adjustments towards more effective mandate implementation. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages the continued implementation of the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System, and notes that it must clearly reflect performance of substantive civilian components against standards, benchmarks and mandated task performance indicators. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to ensure interoperability between the System, the Situational Awareness Geospatial Enterprise, the broader suite of Unite Aware modules and other relevant source systems, so as to streamline reporting and provide transparent analyses of these links ahead of the next session of the Committee.

95. The Special Committee notes the progress made in institutionalizing the strategic management of digital initiatives to ensure sustainability and impact, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that missions and Headquarters have the necessary resources to continue the rationalization of digital tools and data

93 Something to think about

What measures are outlined in the Integrated Peacekeeping Performance and Accountability Framework?

repositories into a unified framework and to harmonize data management practices, reduce duplication and enable data-sharing and integrated planning through improved collection, analysis and dissemination of data to enhance decision-making, without negatively affecting mandate delivery. The Special Committee further requests the Secretary-General to ensure effective management, coordination and oversight over digital technology initiatives for peacekeeping, in consultation with Member States and host States, while ensuring data are managed in accordance with United Nations confidentiality, classification and privacy standards and rules.

96. The Special Committee notes the importance of timely, informed, accountable and responsive decisions at the lowest appropriate level to address mission operational challenges; the continued insufficient level of coordination between joint mission analysis centres, military peacekeeping-intelligence units, United Nations police, the Department of Safety and Security and joint operations centres; and the limited planning capacity and capability in missions and the Secretariat. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to review the relevant processes and structures, to take appropriate measures in order to improve integrated strategic and operational planning and to provide an update before the next session of the Committee.
97. The Special Committee notes with concern that guidance materials for the planning and conduct of peacekeeping operations often lack clarity, are incoherent or contradictory, are not harmonized with official guidance issued by other Secretariat departments, and are often outdated and revised well past the defined review date. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to develop a multi-year plan, in consultation with Member States and peacekeeping missions, to ensure that the revision of guidance materials is initiated before the defined review date and that thematically related guidance materials are reviewed holistically. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to present the draft plan and provide an update on these efforts prior to the next substantive session of the Committee.
98. The Special Committee stresses the importance of integrating lessons learned within peacekeeping missions and calls upon the Secretariat to continue efforts towards a structured, simplified and regular lessons identified and lessons learned process for United Nations peacekeeping covering all functions of the mission and Headquarters. The Special Committee also highlights the need for comprehensive post-mission reviews to be conducted by the Secretariat and distributed to all Member States in a timely manner after the drawdown and closure of any peacekeeping mission. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that such reviews will become an integral part of the lessons identified and lessons learned process for peacekeeping and requests a briefing on this topic before its next substantive session.
99. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to increase the effectiveness of force generation, taking into account mission-specific requirements, and recommends that the Secretariat, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/261, notify the permanent missions of troop- and police-contributing countries, in writing, in an expeditious manner, of cases of absent or non-functional equipment, as specified in the relevant memorandum of understanding, and include a description of absent or non-functional equipment and its associated contingent, in order for troop- and police-contributing countries to undertake corrective measures to fulfil their obligations in this regard.
100. The Special Committee notes that the lack of critical enabling assets negatively impacts the implementation of peacekeeping-mandated tasks. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages all relevant stakeholders to coordinate in a coherent manner to enhance mission capabilities as informed by military capability assessments. The Special Committee notes that rotational mechanisms, which allow

troop- and police-contributing countries to combine their capabilities to facilitate the availability of critical enabling assets in missions through a multinational arrangement with the United Nations, could be a way forward to address the lack of these assets in missions when submitted through the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System. The Special Committee therefore calls upon troop- and police-contributing countries that are in a position to provide critical enabling assets for United Nations peacekeeping missions to develop, in close cooperation with the Secretariat, mid-term plans for making available those assets on a rotational basis in order to facilitate mission planning and mandate implementation, and further requests the Secretariat to develop guidance in this regard as a part of a detailed plan to address the current shortfalls, to be presented to the Special Committee before its next substantial session.

101. The Special Committee notes with concern that lengthy recruitment processes for positions in the Secretariat and missions, including senior positions, may have a negative impact on peacekeeping operations performance. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of conducting recruitments for all personnel in a timely manner and furthermore requests that the process and selection criteria be transparent, and that candidates of nominating Member States be provided with adequate feedback on reasons for non-selection. The Special Committee also reiterates its requests to the Secretariat to optimize the length of recruitment processes of the recruitment campaigns for uniformed personnel by the Office of Military Affairs and the Police Division, including by exploring the possibility of limiting the number of Member State applications for each vacancy to a specific number. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to provide a briefing on this subject before its next session.

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

103. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of predeployment training and reaffirms that the responsibility for training and equipping contingents to required United Nations standards rests with Member States. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to verify that contingents meet United Nations training standards when deployed and continue to verify during deployment, in line with existing procedures. Acknowledging the existing support mechanisms, which have assisted troop- and police-contributing countries with training for deployment, the Special Committee further recognizes the importance of induction and in-mission training and mentoring, as well as mobile training teams. The Special Committee further encourages Member States and the Secretariat to facilitate bilateral or multilateral training and capacity-building partnerships, resulting in direct coordination between all stakeholders and allowing countries to fully share expertise and increase the capability of units and training teams, thereby improving and enhancing performance in United Nations peacekeeping operations.

104. The Special Committee stresses the importance of ensuring that peacekeeping training materials and manuals, guidelines, handbooks and other materials are made available in the six official languages of the United Nations, and encourages interested stakeholders to explore possibilities for supporting, through voluntary and in-kind contributions, the translation of those documents into other languages of

major troop- and police-contributing countries. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide the detailed status of the outstanding translation needs.

105. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to develop a plan and a timeline, in consultation with Member States, for the roll-out of the new United Nations police training architecture programme for individual police officers. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to work closely with Member States, including police-contributing countries, and training centres, to ensure the best possible and regional access to job-specific training for individual police officers, including by utilizing the light coordination mechanism, and to provide a briefing on this issue before the next substantive session of the Committee.

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

107. The Special Committee emphasizes the **critical importance of strategic communications to the performance of peacekeeping operations** in a rapidly changing communications landscape, and recognizes that the efficient use of strategic communications and the provision of accurate content in coordination with local authorities, where appropriate, by peacekeeping missions is key to the effective implementation of their mandates, including with regard to the protection of civilians and to advance the women, peace and security agenda, and helps to strengthen understanding of the mandate, as well as manage expectations, among local communities and host governments. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts in conducting proactive, robust and carefully tailored strategic communications activities and encourages joint public communications by host States and missions, as appropriate. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to ensure sufficient and dedicated strategic communications capabilities in peacekeeping missions, including at the mission leadership level, to develop strategic communication plans that involve all levels, as applicable. The Special Committee encourages peacekeeping missions to give due consideration to the positive and negative feedback of local populations and host States. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue to develop – in close consultation with Member States and making use of their best practices – guidance and doctrine for peacekeepers to address strategic communications. The Special Committee encourages the use of data analytics and digital tools, as appropriate, for monitoring and analysis, including to analyse perceptions of missions, develop integrated strategies that include community outreach and engagement strategies, and evaluate impact. The Special Committee reiterates its request for training materials on strategic communications to be implemented at all levels of peacekeeping operations, as well as to provide training to uniformed communications personnel, with the objective of integrating strategic communications into all planning and decision-making. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to integrate, in coordination with national authorities and other and

relevant stakeholders, strategic communications into the planning implementation of peacekeeping missions' mandates.

108. The Special Committee welcomes the adoption of General Assembly resolution [77/297](#) on the establishment of a memorial wall to honour fallen United Nations

107 Something to think about

Why are strategic communications of critical importance to the performance of peacekeeping operations?

peacekeepers. The Special Committee notes the options paper prepared by the Secretariat, and the request for direction from the Committee as to the body selected to undertake the decision-making process. The Committee encourages the establishment of a working group by interested Member States to guide the process forward and provide recommendations to the Special Committee regarding the establishment and maintenance of the memorial wall for its consideration for inclusion in its report.

G. Politics

General context

109. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

110. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on politics of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports. Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

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

- (a) Policy on integrated assessment and planning (2023);
 - (b) Policy on joint mission analysis centres (2020);
 - (c) Policy on joint operations centres (2019);
 - (d) Guidelines on joint operations centres (2019);
 - (e) Standard operating procedure on integrated reporting from peacekeeping operations to United Nations Headquarters (2019);
 - (f) Joint Mission Analysis Centre Field Handbook (2018);
 - (g) Policy on planning and review of peacekeeping operations (2017);
 - (h) Civil Affairs Handbook (2012);
 - (i) Status-of-forces agreements/status-of-mission agreements (examples can be found in the *United Nations Treaty Series*).
- Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

112. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of the **primacy of politics in peacekeeping**. The Special Committee encourages Member States and the United Nations to increase coherence among international and regional organizations, where relevant, and underlines the need for host States, with the assistance of the United Nations, to progress political solutions and engage earlier on the challenges to mandate implementation.

113. The Special Committee reaffirms the primacy of politics in the prevention, mediation and resolution of conflicts and the supporting role that peacekeeping operations should play in the pursuit of sustainable political solutions, and the need

112 Something to think about

Considering the primacy of politics in peacekeeping, what are some political solutions that are proposed and implemented? Why are some proposed political solutions not implemented?

112 Interesting facts

Considering the primacy of politics in peacekeeping, what are some political solutions that are proposed and implemented? Why are some proposed political solutions not implemented?

for stronger and more inclusive peacekeeping partnerships. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of peacekeeping operations being anchored in and guided by a political strategy throughout their duration. **The Special Committee underlines that, in accordance with their mandates, peacekeeping missions should have realistic goals and objectives and a clear exit strategy, as appropriate.** The Special Committee emphasizes that all exit strategies must be realistic and achievable and be consulted upon with the host government, while minimizing the risk of relapse into conflict or escalation.

114. The Special Committee underscores the political dimension of peacekeeping transition processes and calls for stronger accountability of mission leadership in managing the political elements of a drawdown process, during a transition phase. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat and mission leadership to work together with the host government, including through regular and timely consultations, in coordination with the troop- and police-contributing countries, to achieve a safe and efficient drawdown in order to ensure a mission's freedom of movement, in accordance with the status-of-forces agreement, during its drawdown and withdrawal period. The Special Committee further underscores the important role of political affairs officers in providing continued political analysis during mission drawdowns and support to United Nations country teams, as appropriate.

115. The Special Committee notes that the consent of host States is of paramount importance, particularly during fragile political situations and transitional stages. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretary-General undertake regular assessments of the cooperation between missions and host States, including with a view to **measuring progress towards mandate implementation** and support towards national ownership and leadership, where mandated, and to brief the Special Committee on progress achieved before its next session.

116. The Special Committee expresses concern over the violations of status-of-forces agreements and encourages the use of joint coordination mechanisms that provide a platform for dialogue, confidence-building and problem-solving, thus ensuring collaboration and coherence of political messaging. The Special Committee takes note of the pilot tracking systems in place for recording violations and requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing to the Committee, before its next session, on the efficiency and future of these systems, and related recommendations for improvements, if necessary.

117. The Special Committee welcomes the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to mobilize all stakeholders in support of more effective United Nations peacekeeping, including through his **Action for Peacekeeping initiative**, and call upon all relevant stakeholders to redouble their efforts in translating their commitments into positions and practice, including in all relevant United Nations bodies, as well as at the field level, and to meet periodically in relevant formats to review progress. The Special Committee acknowledges the efforts of the Secretary-General, and relevant stakeholders, to accelerate progress on the implementation of the Action for Peacekeeping initiative and takes note of the progress of the implementation of his Action for Peacekeeping Plus priorities for 2021–2023. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to develop, in close consultation with Member States throughout, a renewed Action for Peacekeeping implementation strategy. The Special Committee further recommends that the Department of Peace Operations internally develop a strategic plan and provide an update in this regard to the Committee before its next substantive session. In this regard, the Special

Committee emphasizes the importance of considering the views and recommendations of Member States, including those expressed during the high-level meeting on Action for Peacekeeping held in September 2018, in advancing the Action for Peacekeeping initiative. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the

113 Important concepts

The goals and objectives of peacekeeping missions should be realistic and aligned to their mandates. In addition, exit strategies are also important to ensure the success of a peacekeeping operation.

115 Something to think about

What are some indicators to show the progress towards mandate implementation?

117 Did you know that...

A4P and A4P+ are initiatives proposed by the Secretary-General and gained wide support from Member States. These initiatives are fundamental roadmaps that guide the work of the United Nations in peacekeeping.

Secretariat brief Member States on progress under the **eight themes** of Action for Peacekeeping, focusing on challenges to its implementation and the impact on mandated mission activities while presenting relevant available data on these impacts.

118. The Special Committee underlines that United Nations peacekeeping operations remain one of the most effective tools in international peace and security and represent multilateralism in action. The Special Committee recognizes that collective leadership from the Security Council, the Secretariat, troop- and police-contributing countries and host States is necessary to create conducive political and operational environments for peacekeeping operations to deliver on their mandates, including in order to make them more adaptable. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages Member States to engage in reflections and discussions on the evolution and future of peacekeeping in relevant forums, emphasizing the Special Committee's contribution and mandate to review all issues relating to peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing before its next session on how efforts to strengthen United Nations peacekeeping are responding to challenges in the light of the evolving nature of conflicts where missions are deployed and ensuring that peacekeeping remains fit for purpose.

119. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to encourage cooperation between missions in geographic proximity, where appropriate, to allow for the sharing of necessary information, situational awareness data and capacities.

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

121. The Special Committee reaffirms the need for greater alignment between the political objectives and peacekeeping operation mandates and their implementation strategies. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of peacekeeping operations having mandates that are clear, focused, prioritized, sequenced, achievable, adaptable to the situation on the ground and are matched by adequate and appropriate financial and human resources, in pursuit of sustainable political solutions. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to expeditiously finalize its proposal on parameters for the prioritization and sequencing of mandates, thereby supporting the development of clear and focused mandates, with a focus on strategic objectives when peacekeeping operations are established or renewed. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide information to the Special Committee on how the Secretariat is prioritizing and sequencing mission activities during the reporting period.

122. The Special Committee recognizes the contribution of the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System to enhance force generation and calls for optimal utilization of national pledges, including standby military and police units (personnel

117 Something to think about

The eight thematic areas of Action for Peacekeeping include politics, women, peace and security, protection, safety and security, performance and accountability, peacebuilding and sustaining peace, partnerships, and conduct of peacekeepers and peacekeeping operations. Why are these eight thematic areas underscored in Action for Peacekeeping? Are there other important thematic areas concerning peacekeeping being left out?

and equipment), for United Nations peacekeeping purposes that are already registered in the System. Accordingly, while noting that force generation is driven primarily by the operational needs of missions in the field and that the responsibility for pledging contingents to comply with the required United Nations standards rests with Member States, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat to provide visibility and timely information to Member States on the process of utilizing the national pledges in the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System.

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

H. Protection

General context

124. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

125. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on protection of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports. Reference to relevant United Nations guidance.

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

- (a) Protection of civilians: implementing guidelines for the military component of United Nations peacekeeping missions (2023);
- (b) Policy on the protection of civilians in United Nations peacekeeping (2023);
- (c) Handbook for Child Protection Staff in United Nations Peace Operations (2023);
- (d) Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards module 5.70 Health and DDR (2023);
- (e) Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (2020);
- (f) Handbook on the Protection of Civilians in United Nations Peacekeeping (2020);
- (g) Policy on United Nations field missions: preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence (2020);
- (h) Policy on child protection in United Nations peace operations (2017);

123 Something to think about

In foreign policymaking, groupthink and selective perception may make the top policymakers make bad decisions. The Secretariat of the United Nations consists of personnel at different levels. How to ensure the analysis provided by the Secretariat is sound, realistic and frank as the information gathered may be selective?

(i) Guidelines on the role of United Nations police in protection of civilians (2017);

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

(k) Policy on human rights in United Nations peace operations and political missions (2011).
Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

127. The Special Committee notes the update of the policy on the protection of civilians in United Nations peacekeeping (2023) and encourages its implementation, including through a comprehensive and integrated approach and accountability for the implementation of protection of civilian mandates by senior mission and Headquarters leadership. The Special Committee recognizes the primary responsibility of host States to protect civilians and calls upon the Secretariat and missions, where mandated, to actively support host States in fulfilling this responsibility. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of the protection of civilians in planning transitions and stresses the need to ensure that protection of civilian threats are addressed during transitions and drawdowns. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing prior to its next substantive session on the implementation of the policy on the protection of civilians, including on the Secretariat's support to Member States on its integration in predeployment training.

128. The Special Committee recognizes the role community engagement can have in strengthening the protection of civilians mandate and urges the Secretariat to ensure effective community engagement in peacekeeping missions, in coordination with national authorities. Local peacekeeping presence is critical, as the visibility and availability of the United Nations at the local level contributes to the possibility of direct and more frequent community engagement. Recognizing the important role of community liaison assistants, including through their support to all units in their interaction with local communities and in the development of local protection plans, the Special Committee underlines the need to ensure that missions recruit the necessary number of such assistants. Special emphasis should be given to the recruitment of female community liaison assistants, as they have a key role to play in engaging the local population. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to report on the capabilities peacekeeping operations have at their disposal for community engagement efforts.

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

130. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to strengthen coordination and coherence between peacekeeping operations and United Nations entities in line with respective mandates on strategies for protecting civilians in the context of

127 Something to think about

The protection of civilians has gained attention in the United Nations for years. However, the situation remains unsolved. What are some obstacles that hinder the effective protection of civilians in peacekeeping?

128 Something to think about

What are some ways to effectively engage the community in peacekeeping measures? (Delegates are encouraged to search for some cases of effective community engagement in peacekeeping.)

peacekeeping transitions, with early consideration for the capacities, resources and mandates required to leverage the role of the United Nations political, humanitarian and development tools at the local, national and regional levels. The Special Committee also emphasizes the important role played by missions during transitions to support the relevant national judicial and corrections authorities, including through specialized support and upon the request of the host State, in accordance with the mandate, to investigate and prosecute crimes amounting to violations of international law.

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

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

133. The Special Committee encourages United Nations peacekeeping missions to continue developing capabilities to mitigate the risk to civilians before, during and after any military or police operation, taking into account the assessment of risk on the ground, including by tracking, preventing, minimizing and meaningfully addressing civilian harm resulting from the mission's operations, including those operations that are conducted jointly with or in support of non-United Nations security forces. The Special Committee further encourages missions to facilitate the reporting by civilians of instances of harm directly to missions. The Special Committee also encourages missions to take steps to increase understanding of mitigation of harm to civilians across mission components and to mainstream mitigation of harm to civilians into mission procedures.

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

134 Something to think about

What are some measures taken to eliminate sexual violence in peacekeeping operations? What can be improved to make these measures more effective?

134 Interesting facts

Reporting rates of sexual violence are sometimes related to the protection of victims. If the victims are well-protected, they are more willing to report cases of sexual violence, and this may also cause the reporting rate to rise. Thus, a trend of rising reporting rates does not necessarily indicate the occurrence of more cases of sexual violence.

135. The Special Committee recognizes the negative role of **misinformation and disinformation and hate speech** targeting individuals and groups in fuelling hatred, ethnic violence, discrimination and ethnic cleansing. The Special Committee therefore requests the Secretariat and peacekeeping missions, in cooperation with host States, to prevent, detect and combat disinformation, misinformation and hate speech against civilians. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing before its next substantive session on actions taken in this regard.

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

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

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

139. Noting that protection of civilians mandate implementation may be undermined by inefficient logistical support for military plans and response, including contingency plans, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat and missions to examine ways and means to ensure the adequacy of logistics capability to achieve timely, effective and efficient protection of civilians.

135 Interesting facts

Both the General Assembly and the Security Council have been aware of the destructiveness of information disorder. In 2023, the Security Council adopted its resolution 2686(2023), in which it recognizes hate speech can contribute to conflicts and undermine peace-related activities. The United Nations and its Member States are mostly proactive in addressing such a challenge but there are still some thematic areas that remain unaddressed due to country stances. For instance, several European States expressed their dissatisfaction with the aforementioned resolution as it failed to address issues of sexual orientation and gender identity.

140. The Special Committee recognizes the multifaceted approach required to address the evolving threat posed by improvised explosive devices to both missions and the local population. In this context, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to appropriately enable and enhance coordination between its specialized services, including the Mine Action Service, the Office of Military Affairs and the Police Division, to take advantage of their expertise on the latest improvised explosive device threat mitigation practices in peacekeeping contexts and, where mandated, to make available the expertise of these specialized services in support of host State authorities regarding self-sustaining improvised explosive device threat mitigation capacities.

I. Safety and security

General context

141. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

142. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on safety and security of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports.
Reference to relevant United Nations guidance

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

- (a) Policy on United Nations system-wide crisis management (2023);
- (b) Guidelines on open-source peacekeeping-intelligence (2022);
- (c) Guidelines on force protection for military components of United Nations peacekeeping missions (2021);
- (d) Guidelines on improvised explosive device threat mitigation in mission settings (2021);
- (e) Policy on the clinical use of blood in field situations (2021);
- (f) United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit Manual (2021);
- (g) Guidelines on acquisition of information from human sources for peacekeeping-intelligence (2020);
- (h) Policy on casualty evacuation in the field (2020);
- (i) Policy on United Nations standards for health-care quality and patient safety (2020);
- (j) Standard operating procedure on boards of inquiry (2020);
- (k) Standard operating procedures on the prevention, investigation and prosecution of serious crimes committed against United Nations personnel in peacekeeping operations and special political missions (2020);

I Something to think about

After reading the whole section I., how may the United Nations systematically address the threats and risks exposed to peacekeepers?

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

Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

144. The Special Committee takes note of the Secretariat's recent development of a force protection training package and its training of trainers course. However, the Special Committee notes with concern that mines and improvised explosive devices continue to pose a significant threat to peacekeepers. The Special Committee encourages all troop- and police-contributing countries to ensure their personnel are given both predeployment and in-mission high quality training in operating in mine and improvised explosive device environments. The Special Committee notes that the 2024 core predeployment materials will contain the most recent buddy first aid doctrine and recognizes the importance of basic first aid training in enabling the delivery of immediate life-saving treatment in the 10 minutes following a life-threatening incident.

145. The Special Committee recognizes the need for deployment of staff officers trained in mine and improvised explosive device threat mitigation expertise as part of appointments at the levels of force headquarters and sector headquarters, and requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing before its next session on how this expertise can be made available for this purpose. The Special Committee also encourages missions to continue to do in-field analysis in order to mitigate mine and improvised explosive device threats.

146. The Special Committee notes with concern that occupational safety and health continue to be a leading cause of fatalities and injuries among United Nations peacekeeping personnel and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide an analysis of the trends in occupational health and safety incidents in United Nations peacekeeping operations, along with proposals for the relevant risk mitigation of these hazards, with priority being given to the most serious incidents, before the next session.

147. The Special Committee acknowledges the finalization of the **mental health strategy** for United Nations uniformed personnel, encourages the implementation of the strategy by relevant actors, according to their respective roles and responsibilities, and requests the Secretariat to provide an update on the implementation of the strategy before its next substantive session. The Special Committee reiterates that mental health services are to be provided in line with existing policies and regulations, and with regard to the respective roles and responsibilities of troop- and police-contributing countries.

148. The Special Committee recognizes the benefits of the use of new technologies, as applicable, in the provision of mental health services, as part of the mental health strategy for United Nations uniformed personnel, and takes note of the ongoing development by the Secretariat, with voluntary contributions from Member States, of an application aimed at supporting mental health information and self-awareness among deployed uniformed personnel. The Special Committee encourages Member States to explore the further use of technology and technological developments, as appropriate, to advance the implementation of the strategy, in coordination with the Secretariat, with a view to contributing to the welfare of United Nations uniformed personnel and the success of missions.

149. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide an update on the implementation of the Strategy for the Digital Transformation of United Nations Peacekeeping before its next session, in close consultation with Member States throughout, outlining how the Strategy has served to improve the safety and security of peacekeepers, enhance field support, facilitate mandate implementation, streamline processes and improve situational awareness, including through the improved collection, analysis and dissemination of data. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to include in this briefing the existing plans to further expand the use of Unite Aware across peacekeeping operations.

150. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of the continuous enhancement of comprehensive information security in United Nations peacekeeping. This includes all aspects of secure information management and data protection, notably the privacy protection of all peacekeepers under the recruitment process, in service or repatriated after service. The Special Committee requests an update briefing on the efforts of the Secretariat in this regard before its next substantive session.

151. The Special Committee expresses concern regarding incidents that have led to loss of life and injury among peacekeepers, especially those concerning logistics and transportation convoy activities and, on the basis of in-mission consultations with troop- and police-contributing countries, as well as the host States, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat to further develop mission-specific peacekeeping-intelligence and improve operational information-sharing aimed at enhancing the safety and security of United Nations peacekeepers.

152. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to ensure missions effectively utilize all available peacekeeping-intelligence capabilities and guidance, such as the Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence Handbook, to better enable peacekeeping-intelligence-led operational planning that more effectively and proactively protects

147 Did you know that...

While mental health issues have gained decent attention in the World Health Organization, it was not until June 2023 that the General Assembly finally adopted a resolution (A/RES/77/300) dedicated to mental health and psychosocial support.

peacekeepers, as well as civilians where mandated. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of ensuring personnel in peacekeeping-intelligence positions in missions have the requisite predeployment training in peacekeeping-intelligence, knowledge and skill sets required for their positions. The Special Committee notes the initiatives of Member States and regional peacekeeping training centres to support troop- and police-contributing countries' predeployment training through the provision of United Nations peacekeeping-intelligence courses for peacekeepers, including training-of-trainers courses, and encourages all stakeholders accessible to support and expand such initiatives to ensure necessary and peacekeeping-intelligence training capacity.

153. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to research the threats associated with the use of **small uncrewed aerial system platforms** against peacekeepers in the field and report back to the Special Committee before its next substantive session. This research should work towards a strategy to counter the use of these systems against United Nations personnel and equipment.

154. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of enhancing the safety and security of peacekeepers and notes with great concern the **increasing amount of disinformation and misinformation directed against United Nations peacekeeping operations, which may negatively impact missions and peacekeepers**. The Special Committee takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the strategic review of strategic communications across United Nations peacekeeping operations (S/2023/282) and requests a briefing on its findings. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure necessary and dedicated capabilities and a whole-of-mission approach to address misinformation and disinformation against United Nations peacekeeping operations, including by engaging through appropriate means of communication. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations to prevent, including through proactive communications, monitor and report on instances of misinformation and disinformation, and to share this information with all relevant stakeholders. The Special Committee also requests that adequate resources and expertise be provided to peacekeeping operations to identify, monitor, analyse, respond to and counter misinformation and disinformation, including for the training of uniformed and civilian public information officers. The Special Committee further requests the peacekeeping missions to work with national authorities in this regard, as appropriate. The Special Committee recognizes that the provision of accurate content, including in local languages and in coordination with national authorities, as appropriate, by United Nations peacekeeping operations, helps to strengthen understanding of their mandates, manage expectations and garner trust and support among relevant stakeholders, notably host governments and local communities, and contribute to countering disinformation and misinformation, in order to strengthen United Nations peacekeeping operations' ability to implement their mandates and enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers. The Special Committee further urges the Secretariat to incorporate modules for identifying and combating misinformation and disinformation at the strategic, operational and tactical levels into its capacity-building and training policies, both at the predeployment training and field mission stages.

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

153 Did you know that...

The unmanned/uncrewed weapons systems has gained more attention in the United Nations recently. In December 2023, the General Assembly adopted its very first resolution (A/RES/78/241) on lethal autonomous weapons systems. The operative part of the resolution shows that the deliberation of the issue is still in a quite primitive stage, but more opinions and directions may be expressed by the General Assembly in the upcoming years.

154 Something to think about

What are the sources of disinformation directed against United Nations peacekeeping operations? What are the intentions or motivations of such actions? How should the United Nations react to misinformation and disinformation directed against United Nations peacekeeping operations not only to enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers but also to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of peacekeeping operations?

155 Something to think about

Some host States may have inadequate national capacity to investigate and prosecute the attackers. How may the United Nations peacekeeping missions react to such situations?

Special Committee requests that missions explicitly include in transition plans options to transfer, as appropriate, to the relevant United Nations entity, the mission tasks related to the investigation and prosecution of all crimes against peacekeeping personnel in line with relevant resolutions and in coordination with the host State. The Special Committee also encourages cooperation between the working group on accountability for serious crimes against peacekeepers and Member States in order to drive progress on combating impunity. The Special Committee requests the working group to provide regular briefings to the Committee to update it on the investigations and prosecutions of the perpetrators of crimes against peacekeepers.

156. The Special Committee notes that United Nations Guard Units are deployed with the authorization of the Security Council or the General Assembly to protect United Nations personnel, premises and assets in field missions operating in non-permissive security environments, including during the liquidation process of a mission. The Special Committee also notes that any decision to deploy a Guard Unit shall be based on a specific security risk assessment. The Special Committee further notes that the standard operating procedures for the deployment of Guard Units has not been updated since 2015 and requests the Secretariat to review and update the current standard operating procedures, taking into account lessons learned from recent drawdowns and liquidations.

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

158. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to increase the efforts to provide timely casualty evacuations at all times and to enhance the capabilities of the rescue chain for all peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee reiterates its request to ensure that the authorization process for aerial casualty evacuation is practical and timely, involving the minimum number of officials possible and delegating direct tasking authority of military air assets for casualty evacuations and medical evacuations to the lowest level possible in order to minimize response times. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that missions review, update and streamline mission-specific standard operating procedures on casualty evacuations. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to review the 2020 casualty evacuation policy, further develop the casualty evacuation procedures and support the effective implementation of the policy. The Special Committee requests an update before its next substantive session on the impact of changes in the casualty evacuation chain in terms of peacekeeper fatalities.

159. The Special Committee strongly condemns violations of status-of-forces agreements, to include obstruction of missions' efforts to implement their mandates. The Special Committee notes that these violations can endanger the safety and

security of United Nations personnel. The Special Committee encourages missions and host governments to first attempt to settle all their disputes concerning the application of status-of-forces agreements through negotiations. The Special Committee notes the progress made by the Secretariat in categorizing and systematically documenting violations of status-of-forces agreements and urges finalization of the database. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the Secretariat continue to instruct all peacekeeping missions to systematically document violations of status-of-forces agreements and any limitations on freedom of movement, including on entry of equipment and personnel into the country and casualty evacuation. Mission leadership should use this information to monitor and resolve risks to the safety and security of peacekeepers and to mandate implementation. In this regard, the Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat and missions to continue to engage with host governments, troop- and police-contributing countries and the Security Council to prevent and address violations of status-of-forces agreements and to provide all stakeholders with clear and systematic documentation on violations of status-of-forces agreements by any party and on all measures taken by the Secretariat to prevent and swiftly resolve these violations. The Special Committee urges all parties, including host countries, to abide by status-of-forces agreements and immediately cease any activities inconsistent with these agreements. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to provide an update, prior to its next substantive session, on situations where restrictions on the freedom of movement of United Nations peacekeepers have negatively impacted the safety and security and casualty and medical evacuation of United Nations peacekeepers, including the reasons provided by the host governments in such cases, if any, and the efforts made by missions and host governments to address the issues.

160. The Special Committee requests that the necessary steps be taken by the relevant stakeholders to ensure that the living standards of all mission personnel are in line with United Nations standards. The Special Committee requests a briefing on the recommendations of the working group on operating base management and accommodation in field missions before its next substantive session. 161. The Special Committee takes note of the role of the Office for the Peacekeeping Strategic Partnership in identifying gaps impacting the implementation of mandates by peacekeeping missions and providing recommendations on systemic issues. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to report on ways to strengthen and institutionalize the working methods of the Office and ensure its recommendations are taken into account, and also requests the Secretary-General to conduct a review of the Office and the implementation of its mandate, prior to its next substantive session.

162. The Special Committee stresses the importance of having realistic and adaptable contingency plans in place for all peacekeeping missions that are capable of addressing various scenarios and ensuring the security of personnel. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to ensure that every peacekeeping mission has appropriate contingency plans, including withdrawal plans, which implement relevant lessons learned and take into consideration the changing security environment. The Special Committee also stresses that closer cooperation is required across Secretariat departments and the field missions to achieve this objective and calls upon Secretariat experts to periodically review missions' contingency plans and provide guidance as required. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on this matter before its next substantive session.

J. Women, peace and security

General context

163. Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19).

164. Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on women, peace and security of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 (A/75/19) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports.

Reference to relevant United Nations guidance 165. The Secretariat has provided a list of the relevant United Nations guidance (including policies, standard operating procedures and guidelines) regarding women, peace and security to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The list below is indicative and non-exhaustive, while some of the documents could appear under several themes:

- (a) Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards module 5.10, women, gender and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (2023);
- (b) United Nations engagement platoon handbook (2022);
- (c) Department of Peace Operations Gender Equality and Women, Peace and Security Resource Package (2020);
- (d) Policy on United Nations field missions: preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence (2020);
- (e) Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (2020);
- (f) Policy on gender-responsive United Nations peacekeeping operations (2018).

Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

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

J Did you know that...

The Women, Peace and Security agenda has been a prioritized thematic area endorsed by particular political groups and United Nations regional groups, especially the European Union and the Western European and Others Group. It is worth noticing that "women, peace and security" should be understood as "women" and "peace and security" instead of "women," "peace," and "security." This agenda item was first proposed in the Security Council in 2000 and it is usually referred to as "Woman and peace and security" in the Council.

166 Something to think about

What is gender mainstreaming? Why is it important in terms of peacekeeping?

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

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

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

170. The Special Committee continues to encourage Member States and the Secretariat to foster cooperation on **sharing best practices and results from national experiences with respect to the deployment of women peacekeepers**. The Special Committee recognizes the continued efforts of troop- and police-contributing countries to increase the number of women peacekeepers, and in this regard encourages the creation of enabling environments for the deployment of uniformed women peacekeepers, both at Headquarters and in the field, including their

170 Something to think about

A 2020 research published by the International Peace Institute revealed that some Member States are concerned of the difficulty meeting the target for female peacekeepers. How can such a concern be addressed while ensuring meaningful and equal participation of female peacekeepers in peacekeeping operations? (Sharing the Burden: Lessons from the European Return to Multidimensional Peacekeeping, page 14)

commensurate accommodation arrangements. These efforts may include supporting platforms for sharing best practices, facilitating networking opportunities and developing sustainable networks for women peacekeepers, as a means to exchange experiences and information about participation in peacekeeping operations, with the aim of inspiring more women to participate in peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee also encourages missions to use networks as a way for women personnel to regularly provide feedback and raise concerns with leadership, as appropriate. The Special Committee acknowledges the launch of the first pilot network for uniformed women and requests the Secretariat to update the Special Committee on the network for women peacekeepers and its activities before its next substantive session.

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

172. The Special Committee recognizes the positive role of peacekeeping missions in developing effective and inclusive rule of law institutions, as mandated and in line with the priorities identified by host country authorities, and encourages the Secretariat and Member States, upon the request of host States, to support efforts to ensure women's participation in rule of law institutions.

173. The Special Committee requests missions to promote women's full, equal and meaningful participation in the design and implementation of security sector reform and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes.

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

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

176. The Special Committee welcomes the successful completion of the in-person recruitment exercise for women corrections officers held in Nairobi in November 2023, noting its promotion of South-South cooperation and its contribution to increasing women's participation in peacekeeping. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to explore the substantive expansion and broadening of participation in such exercises and to hold them on an annual basis through extrabudgetary funding.

177. The Special Committee recognizes the efforts of the Secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to develop courses to **enhance women's meaningful participation** in peacekeeping. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide updates in

177 Something to think about

How to enhance women's meaningful participation in peacekeeping while considering inherent differences between different genders?

its next report to the Special Committee on the contribution of these efforts in promoting women's full, equal and meaningful participation in peacekeeping.

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

179. The Special Committee continues to strongly support the recruitment and deployment of gender advisers to United Nations peacekeeping operations, ensuring necessary capacities to implement the women, peace and security agenda, and to the Department of Peace Operations, to advise at a strategic level on integrating a gender perspective into mission activities and to actively participate in the strategic planning and decision-making processes of United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee also strongly supports the role of gender focal points in United Nations peacekeeping operations and recommends that they be nominated by all troop- and police-contributing countries, the Secretariat and missions at senior levels. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to reinforce the capacities of gender focal points across mission components to better integrate a gender perspective into all areas of work. In this context, the Special Committee calls for close coordination between military, police and other components and women's protection advisers and gender advisers within missions. The Special Committee encourages Member States to ensure the delivery of mandatory predeployment training on gender perspectives and women, peace and security priorities to all troops, observers, military and police experts, sector commanders and force commanders so as to ensure that gender perspectives are systematically integrated throughout United Nations missions. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to develop guidelines and training modules for uniformed gender advisers deployed to peacekeeping operations in order to standardize their tasks and goals, including the translation and implementation of virtual training. The Special Committee welcomes the role of gender advisers in promoting the integration of a gender perspective into mission activities and reiterates its calls upon the Department of Peace Operations to review and strengthen predeployment training on relevant women, peace and security issues for troops, police and corrections personnel. Furthermore, the Special Committee recognizes that mission leadership is responsible for involving gender advisers in all relevant mission activities. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide an update on the status of all gender advisers, including military gender advisers, and gender focal points across peacekeeping and their involvement in relevant mission activities, prior to its next substantive session.

180. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretary-General and Member States, in line with their respective responsibilities, to ensure that leaders at Headquarters and missions are aware, responsive and accountable for creating inclusive safe and enabling environments, free of gender discrimination and bias against women in peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee also requests the Secretariat to facilitate inter-mission learning on the implementation of women, peace and security mandates, and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. The Special Committee further requests the Secretariat to provide an update on these efforts, prior to its next substantive session.

Annex I

Composition of the Special Committee on
Peacekeeping Operations

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

The following observers were represented: Holy See, African Union, European Union, International Criminal Police Organization, International Criminal Court, International Organization of la Francophonie.

Annex II

Decision on working methods regarding the general context

As a result of the intersessional review undertaken in 2023, the Working Group of the Whole of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations,

1. Reaffirms that the general context comprises no more than four paragraphs and will precede the Committee's recommendations in each section of its annual report;
2. Agrees to renegotiate the general context sections of its annual report on a triennial basis, starting in 2025, based on the last agreed language;
3. Agrees to include the following text in place of the general context in the 2024 annual report of the Special Committee:

"Notes that intersessional discussions were held in 2023 and the Special Committee agreed to begin renegotiations of the general context sections in its 2025 substantive session, based on the last agreed language from the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 ([A/75/19](#)).

Without prejudice to its future work, the Special Committee reaffirms that the general context section of the chapter on [insert chapter title here] of the report of the Special Committee on its substantive session of 2021 ([A/75/19](#)) remains valid, as it has not been superseded by any of its subsequent reports."

4. Agrees that, beginning in 2025, and on a triennial basis thereafter, efforts will be made to conclude negotiations on the general context and reach agreement, by consensus, during the first week of its informal consultations;
5. Agrees that if delegations wish to renegotiate the general context in an "off-cycle" year, the decision to reopen must be agreed to by consensus.