

# UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING

## FACT SHEET



### VITAL

#### A central element of international conflict response

- ◆ The fundamentally international character of UN Security Council–authorized peacekeeping missions provides an unparalleled legitimacy to any UN peace operation.
- ◆ UN peacekeeping provides an impartial and widely-accepted vehicle for both burden-sharing and effective action.
- ◆ UN peacekeeping alone may not be the right solution for every conflict. Peacekeeping accompanies a peace process: it cannot substitute for one.



### ROBUST

#### A massive enterprise

- ◆ The UN is the largest multilateral contributor to post-conflict stabilization worldwide.
- ◆ Only the US Government deploys more military personnel to the field than the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).
- ◆ There are more than 100,000 personnel serving on 18 DPKO-led peace operations on four continents in twelve time zones, directly impacting the lives of hundreds of millions of people.
- ◆ The UN does not have its own military forces; it depends on contributions from Member States. 115 countries contribute military and police personnel to UN peacekeeping.
- ◆ Almost 73,000 of those currently serving are troops and military observers and about 9,500 are police personnel. In addition, there are almost 5,700 international civilian personnel, more than 12,400 local civilian staff and some 2,000 UN Volunteers.
- ◆ In 2006 alone, DPKO started negotiations on peacekeeping participation with more than 100 troop contributing countries; transported more than 800,000 passengers and 160,000 metric tonnes of cargo by air; and operated over 200 hospitals and clinics in the field.
- ◆ Nearly 2,000 uniformed personnel and more than 5,000 civilian staff serving on UN peacekeeping operations are women.



### EFFECTIVE

#### A high success rate

- ◆ The UN is a comparatively efficient and cost-effective force provider. In its specialized agencies, it possesses a broad panoply of civil as well as military capabilities needed for nation building.<sup>i</sup>
- ◆ The UN provides the most suitable institutional framework for most nation-building missions, one with a comparatively low cost structure, a comparatively high success rate, and the greatest degree of international legitimacy.<sup>ii</sup>
- ◆ Since 1945, UN peacekeepers have undertaken over 60 field missions and negotiated 172 peaceful settlements that have ended regional conflicts, and enabled people in more than 45 countries to participate in free and fair elections.
- ◆ In 2006, the UN successfully completed its peacekeeping operation in Burundi, having achieved its mandate to help build domestic institutions and give a still fragile society a lasting chance at peace.
- ◆ Mine clearance operations managed by the UN Mine Action Service in DPKO are supporting the deployment of peacekeepers and the fulfillment of mandates in Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea/Ethiopia, Lebanon, Sudan and Western Sahara.



## CHEAPER

### UN peacekeeping is cost effective

- ◆ UN peace operations are less expensive than other forms of international interventions and its costs are spread more widely. When UN costs per peacekeeper are compared to the costs of troops deployed by developed states, NATO or regional organizations such as the AU, the UN is the least expensive option by far.<sup>iii</sup>
- ◆ A survey by Oxford University economists found that international military intervention under Chapter VII of the UN Charter is the most cost-effective means of reducing the risk of conflict in post-conflict societies.<sup>iv</sup>
- ◆ The approved DPKO budget for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 is approximately \$5.5 billion. This represents about 0.5% of global military spending (estimated in over \$1 trillion for 2005).
- ◆ A study by the US Government Accountability Office estimated that it would cost the US about twice as much as the UN to conduct a peacekeeping operation similar to the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti -(MINUSTAH) – \$876 million compared to the UN budgeted \$428 million for the first 14 months of the mission.<sup>v</sup>



## RELEVANT

### UN Peacekeeping makes a difference where it matters most

- ◆ The security environments into which recent peacekeeping operations have been deployed are among the most difficult and “least-governed” of any that international operations have ever encountered.<sup>vi</sup> Peacekeeping missions deploy where others cannot or will not and play a vital role in providing a bridge to stability and eventual long-term peace and development.
- ◆ There is also a clear correlation between the decreasing number of civil wars and the increase in UN missions. The number of UN peacekeeping operations has increased by more than 400% since the end of the Cold War. As this upsurge of international activism grew in scope and intensity through the 1990s and 2000s, the number of armed conflicts has begun to decline.<sup>vii</sup>



## FLEXIBLE

### Adaptable to different environments and needs

- ◆ The UN has demonstrated an increased flexibility in the structures and types of its field deployments, which has allowed it to respond to unique challenges and the risk of overstretch.<sup>viii</sup>
- ◆ Examples include the creation of a separate command to deal with the volatile eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo; the establishment of a Strategic Military Cell at UN headquarters to guide its mission in Southern Lebanon; and the leveraging of comparative advantages of UN partners (i.e. AU, EU, and NATO) to respond effectively to crises when traditional UN deployment would not be appropriate.



## DYNAMIC

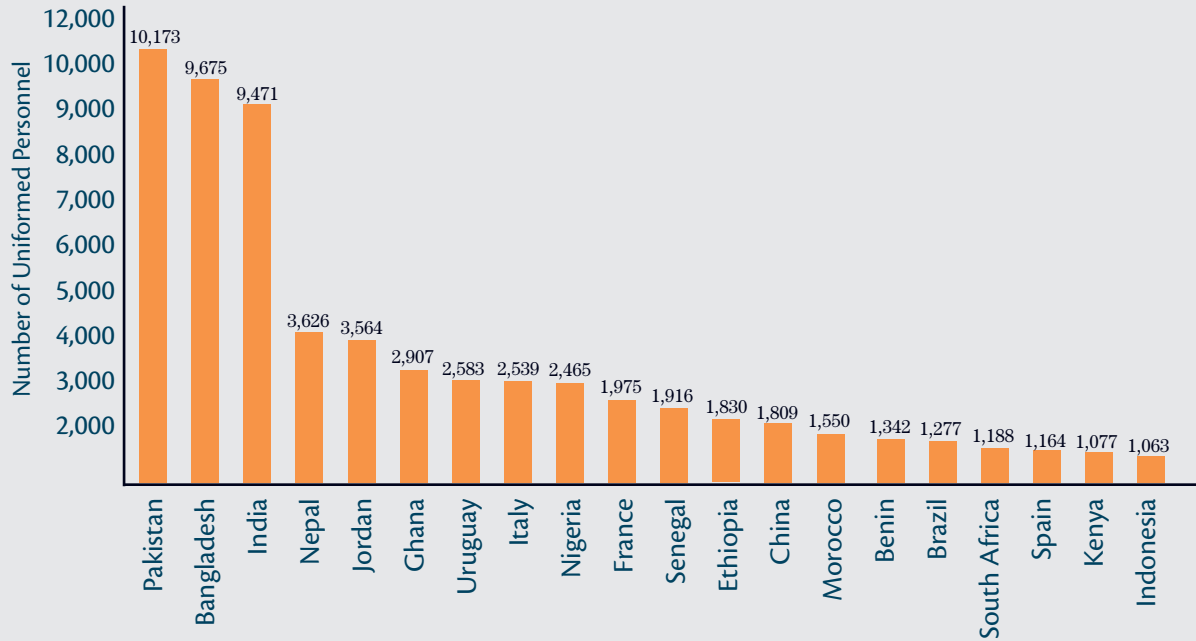
### UN Peacekeeping continues to evolve

- ◆ In addition to maintaining peace and security, peacekeepers are increasingly charged with assisting in political processes, reforming judicial systems, training law-enforcement and police forces, and disarming and reintegrating former combatants.
- ◆ UN electoral assistance has become a regular and increasingly important feature in UN peace operations. Over the past two years, UN peacekeepers supported elections in six post-conflict countries – Afghanistan, Burundi, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo – with populations totaling over 120 million people, giving a total of over 57 million registered voters the possibility to exercise their democratic franchise.
- ◆ Holding its personnel accountable to the highest standards of behavior is a major priority for DPKO. For example, to eliminate Sexual Exploitation and Abuse from its peacekeeping missions, DPKO has adopted a comprehensive three-pronged strategy (prevention, enforcement, and remediation), and has established Conduct and Discipline Units at Headquarters and in the field. DPKO is working with its troop contributing countries to ensure effective follow up and full implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein of Jordan, the Secretary-General's Special Advisor on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.



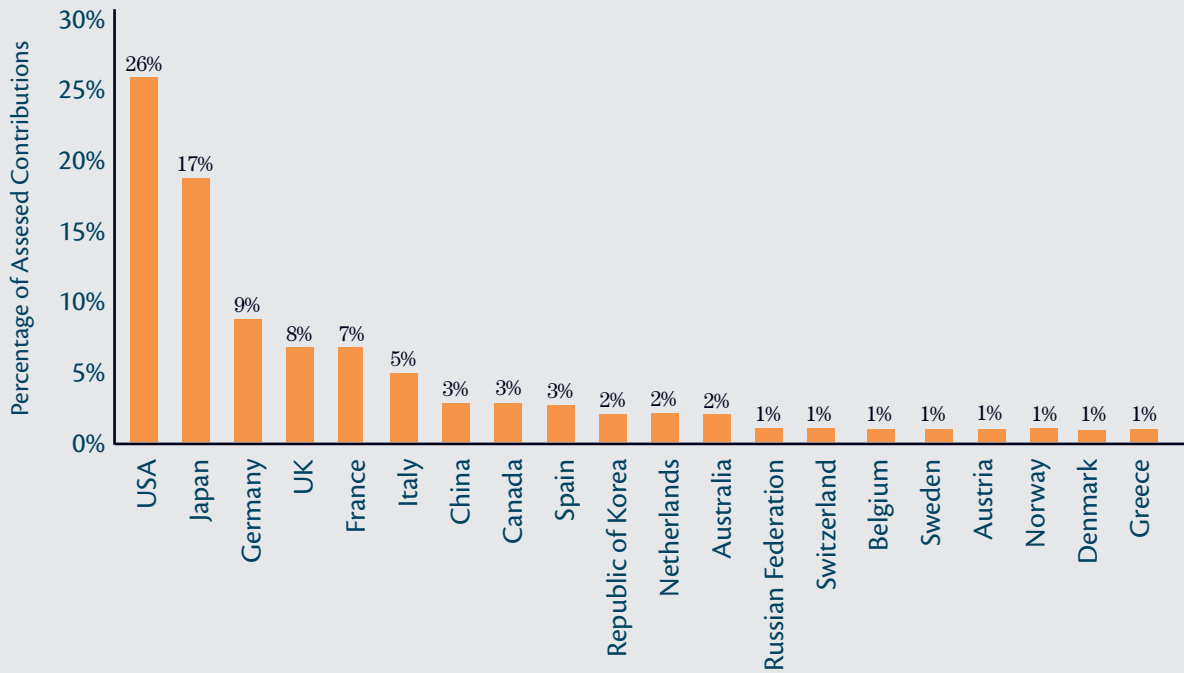
### Top Twenty Contributors of Uniformed Personnel

As of 31 March 2007



### Top Twenty Providers of Assesed Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Budget

As of 1 January 2007



## Current DPKO-led Peace Missions

YEAR LAUNCHED	LOCATION	NAME OF MISSION
1948	JERUSALEM	UNTSO — UN Truce Supervision Organization
1949	INDIA/PAKISTAN	UNMOGIP — UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan
1964	CYPRUS	UNFICYP — UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
1974	SYRIA	UNDOF — UN Disengagement Observer Force
1978	LEBANON	UNIFIL — UN Interim Force in Lebanon
1991	WESTERN SAHARA	MINURSO — UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
1993	GEORGIA	UNOMIG — UN Observer Mission in Georgia
1999	KOSOVO	UNMIK — UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
1999	DEMOCRATIC REP. OF CONGO	MONUC — UN Organization Mission in the Dem. Rep. of the Congo
2000	ETHIOPIA/ERITREA	UNMEE — UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
2002	AFGHANISTAN	UNAMA — UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
2003	LIBERIA	UNMIL — UN Mission in Liberia
2004	CÔTE D'IVOIRE	UNOCI — UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
2004	HAITI	MINUSTAH — UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti
2005	SUDAN	UNMIS — UN Mission in the Sudan
2006	SIERRA LEONE	UNIOSIL — UN Integrated Office in Sierra Leone
2006	TIMOR-LESTE	UNMIT — UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste
2007	BURUNDI	BINUB — UN Integrated Office in Burundi

### Endnotes

- <sup>i</sup> James Dobbins et al., “The Beginner’s Guide to Nation-Building”, RAND Corporation, 2007.
- <sup>ii</sup> James Dobbins et al., “The UN’s Role in Nation-Building: From the Congo to Iraq”, RAND Corporation, 2005.
- <sup>iii</sup> William J. Durch et al., “The Brahimi Report and the Future of UN Peace Operations”, The Henry L. Stimson Center, 2003.
- <sup>iv</sup> Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler, “The Challenge of Reducing the Global Incidence of Civil War”, Centre for the Study of African Economies, Department of Economics, Oxford University, 26 March 2004.
- <sup>v</sup> “Peacekeeping: Cost Comparison of Actual UN and Hypothetical U.S. Operations in Haiti”, United States Government Accountability Office, Report to the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Committee on International Relations, House of Representatives, GAO-06-331, February 2006, p. 7.
- <sup>vi</sup> The Challenges Project, “Meeting the Challenges of Peace Operations: Cooperation and Coordination”, Phase II Concluding Report 2003-2006, Elanders Gotab, Stockholm, 2005.
- <sup>vii</sup> James Dobbins et al., “The UN’s Role in Nation-Building: From the Congo to Iraq”, RAND Corporation, 2005; Andrew Mack, “Peace on Earth? Increasingly, Yes”, The Washington Post, 28 December 2005.
- <sup>viii</sup> See “Annual Review of Global Peace Operations 2007”, Center on International Cooperation, New York, 2007, pp. 2-12.

