B. Maintenance of international peace and security

UNMISS TROOPS ON ROAD PATROL THROUGH REMOTE AREA OF MUNDRI
South Sudan
PREVENTION AND SUSTAINING PEACE

In the spirit of the Charter’s determination “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war”, and in recognition of how far we have to go in meeting this goal, I have made it clear that prevention of crises, vulnerabilities and conflicts is my highest priority.

Prevention is first and foremost about supporting efforts by national Governments and populations to make full use of the gamut of United Nations tools and programmes. Peace must be homegrown, but it can be effectively bolstered through coherent and strategic international support. To that end, I have conveyed to the United Nations system that prevention should permeate everything we do. It should cut across all pillars of the Organization’s work — within respective mandates and resources — and unite us for more effective delivery. To further ensure that we live up to this challenge, I have also articulated the idea of a prevention platform with the aim not of creating new structures or processes, but rather as an internal organizational, cultural and management tool designed to enable us to make maximum use of existing resources and capacities in support of a broader prevention agenda that is commensurate with the risks and challenges our Member States are facing.

At the high-level meeting on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, held in April 2018, Member States reiterated their support for precisely such a holistic and coordinated approach across the United Nations system in support of prevention. Many of the recently endorsed reforms will equip the Organization to provide more effective support to Member States across the spectrum of the prevention challenges they face. Through the creation of an integrated regional structure and a more effective positioning of the Peacebuilding Support Office as the hinge with the development pillar, the ongoing restructuring of the United Nations peace and security architecture aims to achieve coordination across the three pillars of peace and security, sustainable development and human rights in support of prevention. The reform of the United Nations development system will enable us to make more concerted progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, recognizing that the implementation of these Goals is the most effective contribution we can make to prevention.

Sustaining peace is relevant to all the United Nations peace and security tools and entails an emphasis on partnerships, national ownership and recognition of the interlinkages of the United Nations work. I am heartened by the support of Member States for this vision.
The number of peacekeepers has begun to decline from record highs
Number of deployed military and police personnel

Over 130 peacekeepers died in the pursuit of peace in 2017
Number of peacekeeping fatalities

Source: DPKO/DFS, UN
ADAPTING TOOLS TO NEW CONFLICTS

Our missions on the ground remain critical tools in preventing conflict and sustaining peace: there are 14 peacekeeping operations, one operation supporting the African Union in Somalia and 38 special political missions currently deployed around the world.

During the past year, peacekeeping’s strong track record was demonstrated by the successful conclusion of the missions in Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia, as well as the transition to the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti, a smaller peacekeeping mission in that country with a two-year exit strategy. On the basis of these experiences, we are strengthening our internal arrangements to ensure that transitions from large peacekeeping operations to other forms of United Nations presence, including tailored country team configurations, allow host nations to sustain gains already achieved.

Despite recent successes, our peacekeeping missions are increasingly operating in deteriorating security environments encompassing asymmetric threats, transnational organized crime and regionalized conflicts, without clear trajectories for political progress, increasing the toll on our military, police and civilian peacekeepers, 131 of whom died in service in the past year. Our operations are adapting to better perform in these complex environments. As a result of the report of Lieutenant General (Retired) Carlos Alberto dos Santos Cruz on peacekeeping fatalities, many missions are implementing specific action plans designed to better protect peacekeepers while maintaining their ability to carry out their mandate, including on the protection of civilians.

The response to security threats to our peacekeepers must, however, be set in a broader context, one in which many missions are now asked to implement their tasks in the absence of viable political processes. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, technical progress has not been matched by political progress on the political agreement of 31 December 2016, leading me to recommend to the Security Council adjustments to the posture, priorities and sequencing of the tasks of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in that country. Similarly, a resolution in respect of Abyei, a border region disputed by the Sudan and South Sudan, remains elusive. I have proposed to the Security Council an expansion of the political engagement of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei, while recommending operational changes designed to reduce the potential for escalation and pave the way for renewed political dialogue.

Protection of civilians remains a significant challenge. Children continue to be increasingly and disproportionately affected by armed conflict. In 2017, following changing conflict dynamics and the intensification of armed clashes, there were at least 6,000 verified violations against children by government forces and over 15,000 by a range of non-State armed groups. Violations perpetrated included recruitment and use, sexual violence, killing and maiming, abductions, attacks on schools and hospitals and denial of humanitarian assistance. Surges in the number of abductions point to a sustained reliance on children for combat and support duties. In response to high levels of conflict-related sexual violence, the Organization has increasingly focused on prevention through dialogue, addressing conflict-related sexual violence in peace processes, and addressing impunity.

In response to these complex environments, United Nations peacekeeping missions have developed new tools to implement protection mandates across the whole mission. A new framework on accountability for senior leadership lays out clearer responsibilities for both civilian and uniformed personnel. Recognizing that protection is fundamentally about prevention, missions have strengthened analysis and early warning of threats to civilians, as well as innovative community engagement and local conflict mediation efforts. The United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has developed a comprehensive approach focused first on de-escalation and resolution of conflicts, while shifting its posture from protection by presence (being there) to protection through projection (taking action). Acknowledging that partnerships are an essential part of prevention, the protection of civilians sites in the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, which continue to host and protect more than 200,000 internally displaced persons, remain an example of close coordination with humanitarian partners.

To respond to the challenges facing peacekeeping, on 28 March 2018, I introduced the Action for Peacekeeping

Children continue to be increasingly and disproportionately affected by armed conflict.
NGOs and cultural organizations bid farewell to UNMIL, Monrovia, Liberia.
Peacekeeping deployment responded to changes in the political and security situation

Number of Peacekeepers deployed in Côte d’Ivoire

Economic growth has resumed

GDP per capita (PPP) in Côte d’Ivoire

The number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) has decreased

 Refugees from, and IDPs in, Côte d’Ivoire

Source: World Bank

Source: UNHCR
WHAT WE DID

UNOCI protected civilians, enabled inclusive political dialogue and supported the Ivorian Government in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of former combatants.

Deployed over 6,000 peacekeepers in 2004 and increased them to over 11,000 after 2011.

Helped disarm 70,000 combatants and re-integrate them into society.

Helped create conditions for the return of 250,000 refugees.

Supported 2 presidential and 2 legislative elections.

Strengthened the National Commission on Human Rights and helped decrease reported human rights violations by 95% between 2011 and 2016.

Supported social cohesion through 1,000 Quick Impact Projects.

WHY WE LEFT

Peace and stability have been restored.

Côte d’Ivoire has become one of the fastest growing economies in Africa.

The Ivorian administration is now present in all 108 local departments.

Security forces are strengthened and women have been integrated.

Source: DPKO/DFS, UN, UNOCI
initiative at the Security Council high-level debate on peacekeeping. I called for all peacekeeping stakeholders, including the Secretariat, the Security Council, troop- and police-contributing countries, financial contributors, host countries and regional organizations to renew their commitment to peacekeeping by identifying ways for all partners to better support peacekeeping. We plan to capture our respective and mutual commitments in a declaration that Member States will be invited to support later in 2018.

For its part, the Secretariat must better fulfil its responsibilities to peacekeeping stakeholders and to peacekeepers in the field. By means of an action plan to improve the security of peacekeepers, we are ensuring that personnel are better trained and equipped to face high-risk environments, including by improvised explosive device risk mitigation against asymmetric threats where adversaries to peace have greater fire power. We are also taking steps to improve performance. Through several United Nations Peacekeeping Defence Ministerials, we have received new military and police pledges, which are being managed by way of a new Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System website. Triangular partnerships between Member States with expertise, troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat have also enhanced critical skills of our operations in engineering, signals and command and control. Thanks to these advances, we can better fit units to operating environments and identify opportunities to fill training and capability gaps.

Special political missions remain a flexible and versatile modality of response to a wide range of situations. Ranging from special envoys and regional offices to country-specific missions, they share a common purpose — to support political processes and work with partners to secure sustainable peace. Many of these missions — in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Somalia, for example — are deployed in challenging security contexts and, as do my Special Envoys for Syria and Yemen, carry responsibility for complex peace processes amid ongoing high levels of violence. Others, especially in the three regional offices for Central Africa, Central Asia and West Africa and the Sahel, often serve as “first responders” to risks of instability and conflict. Special political missions and envoys routinely make use of a range of United Nations mediation capabilities and expertise, including the Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers. My High-level Advisory Board on Mediation is a new resource also available across the range of our activities.

The regionalization of conflict is one of the most challenging trends we face today. The Middle East, for example, is characterized by several interconnected conflicts with enormous humanitarian consequences far beyond the region itself. The Middle East peace process remains stalled and the situation in Gaza is deteriorating. Against the regional backdrop, Iraq and its partners successfully completed operations against ISIL and the Organization supported major stabilization efforts in the liberated areas. Libya and Yemen are both at critical junctures. Having appointed a new Special Representative, I launched the United Nations action plan on Libya in September 2017. The United Nations Support Mission in Libya, based in Tunis since 2011, has adopted a bottom-up approach to supporting the political process, while also planning for the full mission to return to Libya in 2019. In Yemen too, a recently appointed Special Envoy has brought renewed impetus to the political process. Despite recent intensification in the conflict, the Special Envoy presented to the Security Council in June 2018 elements of a negotiation framework, which he hopes will allow for a resumption of peace talks.

Given the cross-border nature of security threats such as transnational crime and drug trafficking, regional, national and subnational approaches are all essential to the United Nations engagements in much of Africa. I will continue to advocate for integrated approaches to addressing security, development and humanitarian challenges, including through the work of my regional offices. I especially recognize the efforts of the Peacebuilding Commission and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel to mobilize relevant stakeholders to advance implementation of an integrated strategy for the Sahel.

I continue to emphasize the enormous potential of credible, inclusive and peaceful elections. Together with our partners, notably the Economic Community of West African States, we supported the successful holding of elections in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The strengthening of the United Nations Office in Nairobi in 2017 improved our capacity to support regional organizations, national institutions, and local peace architectures. More recently, I appointed a Special Adviser on Madagascar to help to facilitate a national dialogue process and create a conducive environment for the upcoming elections.
I welcome the historic agreement between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the long-standing name issue, reached under the auspices of my Personal Envoy, which demonstrates the value of perseverance and quiet diplomacy. My Special Envoy for Burundi supported the East African Community-led inter-Burundi Dialogue. My Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region has launched a joint mechanism with the Regional Oversight Mechanism for the Democratic Republic of the Congo to address the repatriation of disarmed foreign combatants.

Despite continuing challenges, the United Nations has also contributed significantly to the promising peace process in Colombia. My visit in January 2018 signalled the Organization’s commitment to continue working together with Colombia, including through the complementary work of the United Nations Verification Mission established in September 2017 and the United Nations country team. In Myanmar, the world is witnessing its fastest growing refugee crisis, following the violence of August 2017 in Rakhine State. We must implement the joint response plan agreed to by Myanmar and the United Nations and address the underlying causes, including the issue of citizenship for the Rohingya, to prevent further violence. My newly appointed Special Envoy made her first visit to Myanmar in June 2018.
THE UN MISSION IN LIBERIA CAME TO CLOSE AFTER 15 YEARS

The UN mission adapted to improvements in the political and security situation
Number of peacekeepers deployed in Liberia

![Graph showing the number of peacekeepers deployed in Liberia from 2003 to 2018.](image)

Source: DPKO/DFS, UN

Economic progress has been significant since the crisis
GDP per capita (PPP) in Liberia

![Graph showing GDP per capita (PPP) in Liberia from 1990 to 2017.](image)

Source: World Bank

The number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) has decreased
Refugees from, and IDPs in, Liberia

![Graph showing the decrease in refugees and IDPs in Liberia from 2000 to 2017.](image)

Source: UNHCR
WHAT WE DID

UNMIL protected civilians, supported humanitarian and human rights activities and assisted in national security reform, including national police training and formation of a new, restructured military.

- Between 2003 and 2018, over 126,000 military,
  16,000 police,
  and 23,000 civilian staff served in UNMIL.
- Disarmed over 100,000 combatants and secured over 21,000 weapons as well as over 5 million rounds of ammunition.
- Supported the strengthening of Liberian security forces, including integration of women.
- Helped create conditions for hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons to return home, including over 26,000 to Côte d’Ivoire.

WHY WE LEFT

- The State, which had collapsed during the war, re-established its authority throughout the country.
- The country’s justice and security institutions – police, courts, corrections – were rebuilt and deployed throughout the country.
- Liberia’s borders became more secure.
- Economic recovery helped regain more than 90% of GDP losses experienced during the conflict.

Source: DPKO/DFS, UN, UNMIL
THE UN PEACEBUILDING FUND ALLOCATED OVER $157 MILLION IN 2017
Peacebuilding fund approvals and cost extensions in 2017 (US$ million)

Source: PBSO, UN

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or any area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

2017 Approvals
Other countries with on-going PBF programing

HAITI
$3.0M

COLOMBIA
$11.8M

HONDURAS
$1.2M

EL SALVADOR
$3.0M

GUATEMALA
$4.1M

BURKINA FASO
$3.0M

MALI
$11.7M

GUINEA
$7.9M

GAMBIA
$3.1M

GUINEA-BISSAU
$7.3M

SIERRA LEONE
$4.9M

LIBERIA
$12.3M

CÔTE D’IVOIRE
$5.5M

BURUNDI
$7.5M

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
$1.0M

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
$14.9M

SOUTH SUDAN
$5.0M

YEMEN
$5.0M

SOMALIA
$2.2M

PHILIPPINES
$3.0M

KYRGYZSTAN
$11.5M

TAJIKISTAN
$1.0M

MYANMAR
$3.8M

SRI LANKA
$2.4M

SOLOMON ISLANDS
$2.9M

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
$2.0M

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or any area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
The UN Peacebuilding Fund allocated over $157 million in 2017. Below is a summary of Peacebuilding fund approvals and cost extensions in 2017 (US$ million):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount (US$ million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>3.0M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>1.2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>11.8M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Salvador</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>4.1M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>11.7M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>4.0M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Côte d’Ivoire</td>
<td>5.5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>3.1M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>4.9M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>12.3M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>7.9M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>7.3M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>3.0M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>1.4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>1.4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
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<td>Lebanon</td>
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<td>Solomon Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Republic of Tanzania</td>
<td>$1.0M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
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<td>Central African Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>$2.2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>$5.0M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Effective partnerships amplify the United Nations efforts and increase collective chances at success. At the regional level, we have institutionalized our partnership with the African Union, including through a Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security set up in 2017. The United Nations Support Office in Somalia has continued to provide support to the African Union Mission in Somalia, the regional peacekeeping mission operated by the African Union with the approval of the United Nations. However, region-led peace operations in Africa lack sustained and predictable financing, and I encourage Member States to consider my proposals in this regard. Following my recent visit to the headquarters of the European Union, I look forward to finalizing a framework document in September that sets out our organizations’ joint priorities to support peace operations and encourage prevention. Partnerships with other regional actors continue to move forward and, on 12 and 13 June 2018, I convened a high-level dialogue with the heads of 20 regional and other organizations to discuss key strategic issues.

We must also continue to work with international financial institutions. The United Nations-World Bank study, Pathways for Peace, is the first endeavour of its kind and the United Nations is working closely with the Bank on its recommendations. The Partnership Framework for Crisis-Affected Situations that I signed with the President of the World Bank in April 2017 explicitly shifts our collaboration from crisis response and recovery to risk reduction and prevention. The Strategic Partnership Framework agreement with the World Bank that we signed in May 2018 further aligns our support to countries in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and climate and post-crisis humanitarian responses.

WOMEN AND PEACE AND SECURITY

The women and peace and security agenda remains a priority. The United Nations continues to make progress in enhancing women’s participation in peacekeeping, and approximately 11 per cent of staff officers and observers are female, nearing the target of 15 per cent by 2018. The United Nations also works to promote women’s meaningful inclusion in peace processes and to...
promote gender sensitive agreements, including by developing a close working relationship with Member State regional and national networks of women mediators. With regard to financing of the agenda, 36 per cent of Peacebuilding Fund support went to programmes intended to further gender equality, surpassing the 15 per cent minimum called for by the Secretary-General in 2009. As 15 per cent has been adopted as a minimum standard by a growing number of Member States and other organizations, other United Nations entities working on peacebuilding, recovery, or countering violent extremism still have more work to do to track their investments on gender equality and reach this minimum threshold. Equally, women continue to be underrepresented in decision-making in peacekeeping, as well as local and national peace processes, making further efforts on the participation front imperative.

**YOUTH AND PEACE AND SECURITY**

The Security Council’s recent focus on youth and peace and security, including its open debate in April and its adoption of a resolution in June, highlights the important role that young people play in preventing conflict and sustaining peace. The recently finalized United Nations strategy on youth prioritizes supporting young people as catalysts for peace and security, sustainable development, human rights and humanitarian action. This includes the promotion of an enabling environment that promotes intercultural and interreligious dialogue, is conducive to young people’s actions, and recognizes their important contributions in informal and formal processes, including in mediation, conflict resolution and peace processes.

**STRENGTHENING UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT TO NATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES**

Effective governance and the rule of law are important for sustainable peace, and we continue to enhance institutional support efforts. In Liberia, an improved legal framework helped to resolve electoral disputes peacefully following the elections held in October 2017. Security sector reform has enhanced the security of States and citizens, for example in the Central African Republic where the United Nations mission supported the development of a national strategy on these issues. United Nations police continue to support national police services to better protect populations, while civil affairs staff work to support local reconciliation. Similarly, the efforts of the United Nations Mine Action Service have supported stabilization through its coordination in clearing explosive contamination from key infrastructure, such as the Qusur water treatment plant in Iraq, which now provides clean water to 300,000 residents.

Improving Organization-wide collaboration in support of national processes is an ongoing priority. A joint programme between the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Political Affairs assisted more than 60 countries in 2017, largely by deploying peace and development advisers to support resident coordinators in building national capacities for conflict prevention. Despite an increasingly challenging funding environment, Member State demand for United Nations electoral assistance remains consistently strong, and United Nations support is currently being provided in some 60 countries.

With regard to intergovernmental processes, in 2017 the Security Council significantly expanded and strengthened the sanctions regime on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, which may have contributed to bringing about the current dialogue for peace on the peninsula. The Council also introduced sanctions on Mali. In addition, the Security Council undertook five missions to enhance its understanding of realities on the ground. The Secretariat has moreover supported the Council’s functioning and performance by providing more accessible, comprehensive and accurate data on its work. Not least, we must redouble efforts to find a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, including through the United Nations support to the General Assembly Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

The work of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund remains invaluable and I have called for the revitalization of the Peacebuilding Support Office and a quantum leap in funding for the Peacebuilding Fund. The Commission’s engagement with the Security Council has catalysed international attention and support, which, for example, resulted in $1.9 billion pledged to support the Gambia, while the Fund assisted Liberia in operationalizing its peacebuilding plan. The Peacebuilding Fund programmed a record-setting $157 million for 82 projects in 31 countries in 2017.

Effective governance and rule of law are important for sustainable peace.