

**Remarks of Mr. Luís Carrilho**  
**United Nations Police Adviser and Director of the Police Division**  
**Assessment of the of the Police Division**  
**5 March 2020**

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Committee Members,

I welcome this opportunity to introduce the assessment of the Secretary-General on the functions, structure and capacity of the Police Division (A/74/223) that was requested by the Fifth Committee in its resolution 72/262.C.

As first responders, United Nations police enhance international peace and security by supporting Member States to realize effective, efficient, representative, responsive and accountable police services that serve and protect the population. Recent reviews called for critical improvements to effectively facilitate law and order in host-State communities

We are committed to supporting our police colleagues on the ground. Adapting to 2019 cross-pillar reforms and building on the A4P Declaration and Security Council resolution 2436 (2018), we have undertaken several initiatives, some of which we had to supplement through extra-budgetary funds. For example:

- To increase our effectiveness through coherence in effort, the Police Division, together with Member States and the Integrated Training Service, has launched the United Nations Police Training Architecture Program. The Program helps to develop job-specific training courses for police contributing countries, linking it to recruitment assessment processes.
- Further, we have streamlined processes related to United Nations assistance efforts to strengthen pre-deployment readiness, including our assessment visits, through enhancement of procedures for UN police.
- To advance operational effectiveness, we are (i) deploying our Standing Police Capacity; and (ii) working closely with Member States to further increase the number of police women at all levels and we have achieved so.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Committee Members,

In his assessment, the Secretary-General built on previously mentioned reports and Security Council resolutions 2185 (2014), 2382 (2017) and 2447 (2018), and further contextualized his vision for the Police Division.

Allow me to highlight pertinent findings:

With respect to the functions and structure of the Police Division, the Secretary-General notes that, the “demand for United Nations policing expertise – spanning peacekeeping operations, special political missions and non-mission settings – is expected to increase”.

While our structure remains fit for purpose, the Secretary-General re-affirms the Police Division’s role as the Organization’s focal point for policing and other law enforcement matters, building on tacit acknowledgements of the Policy Committee in 2006 and 2012. To operationalize this role, emphasis is placed on:

- Providing support on policing and other law enforcement matters to entities across the United Nations system;
- Ensuring coordination and coherence in the delivery of policing expertise and technical assistance, delivering a variety of mandates among United Nations peace and security, development and humanitarian entities;
- Providing the single regional political-operational structure with police-related analysis and advice; and
- Reinforcing critical partnerships with police services in Member States and with other organizations;

That said, the Secretary-General confirms that the Police Division’s priority remains peacekeeping and its backstopping support thereto. This includes the provision of timely, effective, and targeted selection, recruitment, rotations and deployments to peace operations, providing efficient planning and daily support to missions, as well as facilitating effective performance management and accountability of police personnel.

Concerning resource implications, the assessment notes that the “[g]rowing need for specialized expertise should be supported by a commensurate increase in capacity for the Division based on the most pressing needs in the field”.

The Secretary-General notes that “while the demands placed on United Nations police have increased over the past decade, capacity has stagnated,” including both in terms of numbers and the ability to carry out core mandated and increasingly complex and diverse activities.

Chair and Distinguished Committee Members,

The Secretary-General also suggests strengthening our liaison capacity on policing with other regional offices and organizations.

His assessment concludes that “the reform has strengthened and enhanced the responsibilities of United Nations police. The Division will continue to maximize the use of existing resources, but greater capacity in evaluation and oversight, training, planning, policy, police reform and specialized expertise in areas such as serious and organized crime, along with resources for travel to facilitate rapid deployments and assess performance, are essential to match the growing demands for specialized police support”.

I would like to appeal to you to positively consider previously identified, as well as changing requirements, to ensure the much-needed sustainability in our area of work.

Finally, the Secretary-General also note that the Police Adviser, as the senior-most police official in the Organization, will be included in all United Nations system forums, discussions and meetings that involve policing and law enforcement matters relating to the peace and security pillar.

Thank you.