

NMUN•NY 2018



18 – 22 MARCH 2018

Documentation of the Work of the General Assembly Fifth
Committee (GA5)



Conference A

General Assembly Fifth Committee (GA5)

Committee Staff

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Chair	Pia Weber
Rapporteur	Fiona Adams
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Agenda

- I. Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases
- II. Improving Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System
- III. Consideration of the Secretary-General's Reform Proposals

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
GA5/1/1	Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases	84 votes in favor, 7 votes against, 7 abstentions
GA5/1/2	Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases	Adopted without a vote
GA5/1/3	Strengthening compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases	93 votes in favor, 5 votes against, 0 abstentions
GA5/1/4	Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases	Adopted without a vote
GA5/1/5	Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The General Assembly Fifth Committee held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Improving Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System
- II. Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases
- III. Consideration of the Secretary-General's Reform Proposals

The session was attended by representatives of 103 Member States and 1 Observer. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of II, I, III, beginning discussion on the topic "Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases."

By Tuesday morning, the Dais received a total of 7 proposals covering a wide range of topics, addressing issues such as education and training of peacekeepers, cultural sensitivity, and transparency and accountability. Many Member States expressed their passion about education as one of the pathways to solve the issue of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), and the debate centered largely around the best way to approach and improve educational initiatives for peacekeepers and communities. The atmosphere in the committee was one of collaboration and consensus; by the end of the session on Tuesday evening, multiple working papers merged along complementary and similar themes.

On Wednesday afternoon, 5 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, none of which had amendments. The committee adopted 5 resolutions following voting procedure, 3 of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including civilian education about the United Nations' work and Charter, improved methods of reporting SEA on missions, and expanding the Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. Delegates emphasized the importance of consensus in speeches and in informal sessions, concluding the session with high hopes for the future with regards to continuing the endeavor of combating sexual exploitation and abuse.



Code: GA5/1/1

Committee: General Assembly Fifth Committee

Topic: Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases

1 *The General Assembly Fifth Committee,*

2
3 *Recalling* article 101 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), which states that primordial consideration
4 regarding employment of United Nations (UN) staff is ensuring the highest standards of integrity, competence and
5 efficiency, specifically through administrative bodies and initiatives, as well as the 2003 adoption of the zero-
6 tolerance policy in regards to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) presented by then-Secretary-General Kofi Annan
7 in his Bulletin 13/2003,

8
9 *Mindful* of the Fifth Committee’s mandate to address budget and finances as well as oversee, control, and advise on
10 administrative and budgetary matters of the UN, as laid down in Article 17 of the *Charter of the United Nations*,

11
12 *Bearing in mind* the definition of accountability found in the Secretary-General’s report 64/640 of 2010, entitled
13 “Towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat,” which offers a comprehensive understanding
14 of the term,

15
16 *Noting* the importance of system-wide coordination to strengthen the compliance and accountability in field
17 missions with special regard to SEA cases, to avoid the duplication of responsibilities between departments and to
18 ensure the effective deployment of resources,

19
20 *Recognizing* that SEA by UN peacekeepers not only undermines the implementation of peacekeeping mandates, but
21 also the credibility of the UN,

22
23 *Acknowledging* the work of all UN personnel throughout the UN system, including peacekeepers, who serve
24 honorably and are a credit to the UN, and *emphasizing* that the crimes of a few will not tarnish the reputation of all,

25
26 *Taking note with satisfaction* that the UN has made positive strides in the last years to put all peacekeepers through a
27 universal vetting processes,

28
29 *Guided by* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 that emphasizes the need for a stronger commitment to
30 partnership and cooperation, as established by General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 2015 on “Transforming our
31 world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,”

32
33 *Approving* the recommendation submitted by the International Peace Institute in the report named, *Dealing with*
34 *Disgrace: Addressing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in UN Peacekeeping*, on ensuring that justifications of
35 decisions made by the Secretary-General to repatriate certain national contingents involved in SEA cases are
36 published and more transparent,

37
38 *Calling to mind* General Assembly resolution 49/37 of 1994 on the “Comprehensive review of the whole question of
39 peacekeeping operations in all their aspects,” especially Members States’ responsibility to train UN peacekeeping
40 personnel prior to their deployment, to ensure they reflect the core values and needs of the UN Department of
41 Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) operations,

42
43 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 31/192 of 1976, on the “Statute of the Joint Inspection Unit” and the
44 unique role of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) as the only external and independent system-wide inspection,
45 evaluation, and investigation body, as well as *reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 54/16 of 1999 on the “Joint
46 Inspection Unit,” as well and the importance of the Special Inspection Unit (SIU) and the ongoing need for timely
47 action in response to SEA allegations,

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49 *Emphasizing* the importance of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) evaluations on SEA, and the
50 importance of autonomy in the Conduct and Discipline Team (CDT) in observing, reporting on, and preventing SEA
51 cases by UN peacekeeping personnel,
52

53 *Appealing* to Member States to sign the Voluntary Compact on Preventing and Addressing SEA proposed by the
54 Secretary-General in 2017, and to ensure full implementation of the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy,
55

56 *Fully supporting* the Trust Fund on Victim Assistance established by the Secretary-General in 2016, and *desiring* to
57 expand its scope to provide reparations for victims as recognized by General Assembly resolution 60/147, which
58 recognizes the capacity of the JIU to coordinate with legislative organs and participating organizations to provide
59 recommendations and implement systems to follow-up to the recommendations of the JIU,
60

61 *Conscious* of the fact that the JIU 2018 programme of work does not currently include a review of the UN
62 Peacekeeping Operation (PKO) field missions in response to SEA,
63

64 *Taking into consideration* the success of the Ghanaian Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centres
65 (KAIPTC) SEA training programs, aimed at strengthening the capacity of security agencies and civil society in the
66 prevention and handling of SEA cases,
67

68 *Alarmed* that, between 2004 and 2016, more than 2,000 SEA by peacekeepers cases have been recorded, with 103
69 cases affecting more than 300 victims reported in 2016 alone,
70

71 *Drawing attention* to the conclusion made by the DPKO and the study submitted by the Secretary-General that the
72 presence of women in UN missions helps to ensure UN mechanisms to become more approachable for victims when
73 reporting cases of SEA,
74

75 *Also drawing attention* to the initiative proposed in the 2016 report of the Secretary-General on "Special measures
76 for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" (A/70/729), on increasing to 6 % the representation of
77 women in peacekeeping missions,
78

79 1. *Strongly recommends* the implementation of a survey to be conceptualized by the Advisory Committee on
80 Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, in
81 conjunction with the Secretary-General's Task Force on SEA, and to be distributed on the ground by the CDT
82 to civilians within peacekeeping missions' areas, to draw the attention of the CDT on potential misconducts in
83 the peacekeeping missions, which should:
84

- 85 a. Be collected anonymously to protect the identities of those speaking out against the peacekeeping
86 mission;
- 87 b. Have pre-written general and open-ended questions regarding peacekeepers' performance and
88 treatment of civilians;
- 89 c. Be provided in large quantities and collected in locked boxes monthly in community areas of assisted
90 regions, in order to have periodic checks on the performance of the peacekeepers, who may be
91 potential perpetrators of SEA;
- 92 d. Have its results released to the public in form of percentages of misconduct listed in the OIOS
93 evaluation, in order to make the peacekeeping programs transparent and reduce the amount of SEA;
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98 2. *Wishing* the involvement of the Special Inspection Unit (SIU) under supervision of a report providing cost-
99 benefit analysis on the work of the SIU in field missions, issued by the JIU and the presentation to the Fifth
100 Committee of the General Assembly for approval of:
101

- 102 a. The attachment of the personnel to the UN peacekeeping contingents to provide oversight and
103 investigative capabilities in situ;
104

- 105 b. Standard investigation and reporting protocols provided by the Department of Field Support (DFS)
106 regarding SEA cases, as well as logistical support to SIU detachments employed during peacekeeping
107 operations;
108
- 109 3. *Recommends* the DPKO's Policy, Evaluation, and Training Division (DPET) incorporate KAIPTC's SEA
110 modules to be given to peacekeepers upon arriving at the mission site by an experienced and knowledgeable
111 senior mission leader, in order to:
112
- 113 a. Refresh and solidify the importance of compliance with the UN's zero-tolerance policy regarding SEA
114 through various modules that cover:
115
- 116 i. Protection of persons against SEA, including psycho-social assistance, counselling,
117 reintegration, and reproductive health issues;
118 ii. The role of culture, and training skills in handling SEA;
119 iii. Justice for victims of SEA, prosecution of perpetrators, and advocacy and sensitization of
120 peacekeepers;
121 iv. Practical exercises: identifying and reporting SEA cases, and simulations exercises;
122
- 123 b. Foster cultural awareness, solidarity, and respect between peacekeepers and the community they are
124 serving, once they are immersed in the mission location;
125
- 126 4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to implement a hybrid model between Member States and the assistance of
127 OIOS and other relevant UN bodies, in the investigation and reporting of allegations involving UN personnel in
128 peacekeeping, to ensure that no hosting Member States wishing to investigate allegations of SEA by
129 peacekeepers against its citizens loses this opportunity due to limited resources to:
130
- 131 a. Allow effective resource support and information sharing from the UN to Member States wishing to
132 maintain control over investigations in their sovereign territory;
133
- 134 b. Explore opportunities for sharing of UN databases, procedures, resources, and field personnel with
135 domestic authorities, should they choose a hybrid model;
136
- 137 c. Allow Member States the choice to implement the hybrid model to have superior administrative
138 control;
139
- 140 d. Utilize the already established effective resources included in the mandate of the OIOS;
141
- 142 5. *Councils* that a pool of competent, well-equipped investigators be pre-selected by host countries wishing to
143 investigate allegations against peacekeepers with support from UN Country Teams, and that the investigators
144 receive prior training on community sensitivity to ensure the safety of victims, method, evidence preservation
145 and use of UN resources to:
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- 147 a. Reduce administrative delays in beginning the investigation;
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- 149 b. Increase accountability and transparency of the investigation;
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- 151 c. Ensure that all investigations are begun in a timely matter;
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- 153 6. *Also calls on* the DPKO to create a more efficient, codified, and accessible form for interpreting when SEA
154 merits investigation by either the JIU or the host state, that expedites the decision-making period on whether a
155 presentation of facts found in the fact-finding, assessment, and evidence preservation phase of an investigation
156 in the Management of Reports and Allegations procedure;
157
- 158 7. *Advises* that the peacekeeping budget proposed by the Secretary-General include provisions that local
159 community leaders be educated by the mission's Conduct and Discipline Unit on the mandate of the mission

160 with the support given by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on the crime of
161 SEA, and on how to disseminate this information to the local community, through:
162

163 a. Providing guidelines to community leaders ensuring core elements of SEA are discussed, as detailed
164 by the UN's Standards of Conduct, including:

- 165 i. Human rights;
- 166 ii. Resources for victims;
- 167 iii. Gendered interactions;
- 168 iv. Social stigma;
- 169 v. The consequences and repercussions for those found guilty of SEA;

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171 b. Having the mission's DPET team find a public space accessible to all members of the community that
172 will allow community leaders to disseminate the information on the mission mandate and SEA
173 handling;
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176 8. *Appeals* for a reduction of the ten-day decision period to five days for the host country to report SEA to the
177 OIOS investigation to consider whether it will take responsibility for the investigation into SEA allegations
178 against a UN peacekeeper to ensure timely and proportionate action is taken;
179

180 9. *Encourages* a more supportive environment for victims to report cases of SEA by recommending Troop
181 Contributing Countries (TCCs) to examine to increase the number of women in peacekeeping contingents to 6
182 % of staff;
183

184 10. *Emphasizes* the coordinating of efforts to combat SEA at a local, national, regional, and international level by:

- 185 a. Having country-to-country-led focus on measures of implementation of SDG 17 to be able to focus on
186 each specific Member State's needs, integrating diverse levels of government to combat SEA cases;
- 187 b. Implementation, which should involve policy reports submitted by each Member State and which
188 should be collected by the DPKO;

189
190 11. *Invites* Member States to increase their voluntary contribution to the Trust Fund of Victims Assistance by:

- 191 a. Suggesting that the scope of the Trust Fund of Victims Assistance be expanded to provide reparations
192 on behalf of victims who have suffered moral damages, material damages, and the loss of earning
193 potential;
- 194 b. Recommending the establishment of procedures by Member States that allow victims of SEA
195 involving UN personnel to present claims for reparation and ensure the victims receive it, through:
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 - 198 i. Reporting mechanisms in the form which best suits the accessibility of the victims;
 - 199 ii. Ensuring that upon substantiation of claims by the UN Dispute Tribunal and the JIU, the
200 claim can be fulfilled;

201
202 12. *Calls upon* the UN Secretariat to align approaches, enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation, as well
203 as implement system-wide initiatives designed to prevent and respond more effectively to SEA, by:
204

- 205 a. Enhancing the reporting capacity of the UN Special Coordinator in order to offer better prevention and
206 coordination measures based on collected data;
- 207 b. Improving the UN response to SEA by focusing on improving data collection and reporting, as well as
208 coordinating peacekeeping personnel screening mechanisms;
- 209 c. Ensuring the systemic issues, fragmentation, and other discrepancies identified that provide for
210 inefficiencies are fully resolved in a timely manner via:
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- i. Establishing a monthly report on problematic issues encountered during field missions;
 - ii. Coordinating the efforts of the Head of Missions, as well as the Conduct and Discipline Unit, and the Under-Secretary-Generals for Field Peacekeeping Operations, Peacekeeping Operations and Political Affairs;
 - 13. *Takes into account* ensuring the accountability and transparency of the processes of investigations conducted to address SEA cases by:
 - a. Inviting the JIU, as appropriate, to consider including UN peacekeeping operations field missions responses to allegations of SEA for their 2019 programme of work, by:
 - i. Including investigations of reporting mechanisms within PKO field missions for reporting SEA;
 - ii. Including investigations of reporting mechanisms external to the field mission, whereby victims can report cases of SEA involving peacekeepers without contacting PKO field missions;
 - iii. Including investigations of response mechanisms to reports of SEA;
 - b. Cooperation of PKO field missions and participating organizations with the JIU, and encouraging the sharing of experiences, knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned with other UN audit and oversight bodies;
 - c. Calling upon CDTs to publish more extensive reports, including:
 - i. Bi-annual regional maps regarding statistical data on SEA cases reported by victims;
 - ii. Regular reports of current practices for SEA cases such as on the type of training peacekeepers who are involved in the SEA cases undergo, such as psychological, investigative, and situational awareness in order to find best practices, or on the length of time between the initial report of SEA cases and a response;
 - d. Supporting the function of the UN Dispute Tribunal in providing random checks of OIOS to guarantee accountability and transparency, notwithstanding cooperation with OIOS, to ensure collaboration and partnership;
 - 14. *Appeals* to the UN Secretariat to adopt a comprehensive strategy of prevention, investigation, reporting, and coordination measures designed to eliminate SEA in UN peacekeeping missions, that includes:
 - a. Enhancing the coordination, efficiency and robustness of SEA investigation through establishing one center of command and investigation by giving the Force Commander the administrative, disciplinary, and investigative powers;
 - b. Enhancing cooperation with troop- and police- contributing states through offering them membership to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and holding regular consultations with them.



Code: GA5/1/2

Committee: General Assembly Fifth committee

Subject: Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases

1 *The General Assembly Fifth Committee,*

2
3 *Guided by the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations (1945),*

4
5 *Expressing its appreciation towards and of the work of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as Room to*
6 *Read, CARE Education, Forum for African Women Educationalists, and Center for Digital Inclusion, as well as the*
7 *cooperation between them and Member States before, during, and after field missions,*

8
9 *Deeply disturbed by the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) cases reported, and the stigma surrounding the*
10 *reporting of SEA committed by United Nations (UN) peacekeepers in field missions, and the dishonor this brings to*
11 *the work of the UN,*

12
13 *Taking into account the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 4, 5.2 and 16, there is no place for SEA in a*
14 *world where the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015) are being implemented,*

15
16 *Recalling the High-Level Meeting on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in 2017, which highlighted*
17 *the importance of quick reporting of SEA cases,*

18
19 *Desiring that all Member States sign the Legal Framework for deployed contingents to UN missions,*

20
21 *Recalling further the UN's zero-tolerance policy towards SEA,*

22
23 *Acknowledging the crucial role of the Victims' Rights Advocate (VRA) within the UN to reinforce victims'*
24 *assistance by providing aid, protection, and access to justice, thus prioritizing victims' rights,*

25
26 *Recognizing the Net Public Program for Net Digital Spaces (EPN), which grants internet and multimedia access to*
27 *the general public for an efficient reporting mechanism for SEA victims for a system-wide, victim-centered*
28 *approach rooted in transparency and accountability, as well as ensuring justice,*

29
30 *Considering General Assembly resolution 71/818 (2017) on "Special Measures for Protection from Sexual*
31 *Exploitation and Sexual Abuse," as Secretary-General António Guterres emphasizes this issue by appointing*
32 *renowned lawyer and human rights advocate, Jane Connors, to lead the VRAs,*

33
34 *Supporting fully the Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, providing specialized*
35 *services for victims, and strengthening community-based complaint reception networks, helping provide medical,*
36 *psychosocial, and legal services to victims of SEA and dispense education and vocational training for victims,*

37
38 *Acknowledging the need to modernize the peacekeepers' education about SEA, prior to their deployment, via a*
39 *digital approach, as mentioned in General Assembly resolution 57/306 (2003) on "Investigation into sexual*
40 *exploitation of refugees by aid workers in West Africa," peacekeeping education, in order to reinforce and prevent*
41 *misconduct by all UN personnel,*

42
43 *Recognizing the salience of e-learning programs such as the Victims Assistance Program (VAP),*

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45 *Emphasizing the importance of using data sharing to network and develop mentorship programs that connect*
46 *Member States' youth with role models that hold experience in the matter of SEA,*

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Viewing with appreciation the current work of the Department of Field Supports (DFS) Misconduct Tracking System (MTS),

Stressing the necessity to use Geospatial Information System (GIS) data as a tool for peacekeeping employers, in order to target the areas that have a high density of SEA in order to combat this issue,

1. *Encourages* the solidification of the VAP mandate by supporting local victim advocacy centers to accompany all peacekeeping missions under the guidance of local VRAs, the mandate of which includes:
 - a. Offering professional counseling services through available local resources such as mentors or the VRAs to victims of SEA when needed;
 - b. Providing to victims a further assistance in understanding individual rights following sexual abuse, and the status of investigations in terms of the UN and the applicable national law;
 - c. Suggesting that the VRA be female so as to facilitate the establishment of trust towards victims;
 - d. Working towards creating a reliable reporting system to investigate SEA cases anonymously, within a system which prioritizes the victims' safety, such as the VRA, alongside improved whistleblower programs to further build upon the Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2017/2/Rev.1, and broader legal protection against possible retaliation by the perpetrator, including:
 - i. Suggests the implementation of confidentiality agreements solely for victims so as to preserve their integrity and to discourage perpetrators;
 - ii. Suggests the implementation of a nine-month restraining order against perpetrators, regardless of the presence of a perceived threat;
 - e. Taking responsibility for and coordinating the existing complaint mechanisms established in peacekeeping missions run by the Conduct and Discipline Team (CDT) together with the CDT to make it more approachable for victims, as the VRA is by its mandate involved with the community and its victims;
 - f. Working especially close with the Conduct and Discipline Unit (CDU) and the Resident Coordinators, and continuously report back to the VRA at the UN Headquarters, who is to report to the Secretary-General;
2. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and their committee on NGOs and UNiTE to End Violence against Women, to disseminate information regarding human rights and international humanitarian law to the civilians of the countries with ongoing operations, by implementing public awareness multi-media campaigns, by:
 - a. Utilizing social media, television, and radio programs with themes based on awareness and prevention;
 - b. Implementing school campaigns and awareness programs led by community members and representatives in advocacy centers, such as UNiTE;
 - c. Welcoming national public figures working in partnership with the respective advocacy centers to spread awareness using their publicity;
 - d. Introducing and emphasizing activities during national holidays, which promote empowerment in affected groups, such as International Women's Day;
3. *Requests* the reform of the DFS budget allocated to the implementation of the e-learning platform in order to target SEA, by:

- 103 a. Extending the e-learning initiative to community leaders, which will be selected through a consultation
104 between local peacekeeping employees, local authorities, as well as regional Civil Society
105 Organizations (CSOs) that will be charged with an informal investigation to target potential
106 community leaders prioritizing survivors of SEA;
107
- 108 b. Further recommending specific training geared towards targeting SEA, as well as informing on the
109 resources available with an emphasis on local human resources;
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- 111 4. *Suggests* the Independent Audit Advisory Committee (IAAC) to review the Office of Internal Oversight
112 Services' (OIOS) mandate and funding to collect allegations of SEAs implying the peacekeepers, by:
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- 114 a. Recommending the implementation of a call center specialized in reporting peacekeepers accused of
115 SEA to OIOS;
116
- 117 b. Welcoming the mission of the DFS to strengthen the "report now" platform by translating it into
118 languages native to their country of use, as well as improving their compliance with the Web Content
119 Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) and the Jakob Nielsen Heuristics;
120
- 121 c. Recommending the adaptation of the Net Public Program for Net Digital Spaces (EPN), which grants
122 internet and multimedia access to the general public for an efficient reporting mechanism for SEA
123 victims, in order to implement it at a worldwide scale to bring aid to SEA victims all over the world;
124
- 125 d. Recommending that the UN post office be utilized by OIOS to collect allegations of SEAs towards
126 peacekeepers, as this could benefit areas with no access to digital storage systems;
127
- 128 e. Proposing to OIOS to review the peacekeepers' uniform design to include information to help
129 reporting SEAs such as:
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- 131 i. Telephone number of the call center under the mandate of OIOS, mentioned previously;
132 ii. Necessary information to contact the post office of OIOS, mentioned previously;
133
- 134 f. Suggests to OIOS the offering of external reporting mechanisms to those reporting alleged cases of
135 SEA, to provide the security and anonymity of a third-party facilitator, such as:
136
- 137 i. The UN Panel of External Auditors;
138 ii. The Ethics Office;
139
- 140 5. *Encourages* the review of the structure budget of the existing Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual
141 Exploitation and Abuse, in order to provide a bank of local lawyers to the victims, that would:
142
- 143 a. Enhance the capacities of the victims to prosecute the peacekeepers in the national legal system of
144 either the defendant or the plaintiff through an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice,
145 taking into consideration the possible bias present in the national court of the defendant;
146
- 147 b. Offer equal chances to all victims of SEA to be represented when facing the law;
148
- 149 c. End the impunity of the SEA cases and ensure accountability within UN peacekeeping missions;
150
- 151 6. *Encourages* data sharing initiatives within the MTS database, distributed by the UN Committee of Experts on
152 Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), in order to:
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- 154 a. Collect, monitor, and publicize the MTS database;
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- 156 b. Supplement current MTS information to provide peacekeeper employers with a streamlined system of
157 recording SEA cases committed;
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- c. Provide the Peacekeeping missions, utilizing GIS data, with the expertise from:
 - i. Local, provincial, or national agencies;
 - ii. UN-GGIM;
 - d. Provide Member States with consistent and standardized e-learning guidelines with regards to the needs of Troop-Contributing Countries and local populations, with the help of:
 - i. Advocacy groups;
 - ii. CSOs;
 - iii. DFS representatives;
7. *Requests* that OIOS reviews and reevaluates already established structures and those proposed within this resolution, by:
- a. Requesting that the Secretary-General and OIOS evaluate the proposed measures in a comprehensive manner, and provide subsequent feedback on budgetary matters;
 - b. Stressing the need for expedient and timely reports from OIOS and its Internal Audit Division (IAD), to allow for more effective preventative measures to be taken towards cases of SEA, which pose extreme risks to the integrity and functionality of the UN.



Code: GA5/1/3

Committee: General Assembly Fifth Committee

Topic: Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases

1 *The General Assembly Fifth Committee,*
2
3 *Affirming* the principles set forth in Article 101 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), which states that “the
4 paramount consideration in the employment of the staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be
5 the necessity of security of the highest standards of efficiency competency, and integrity,”
6
7 *Stressing* the importance of respecting the sovereignty of Member States as expressed in Article 2 in the *Charter of*
8 *the United Nations* (1945),
9
10 *Supporting* fully the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), stating in article 3 that everyone has the right
11 to benefit from security to their person,
12
13 *Emphasizing* the importance of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and Security Council resolution 2242
14 (2015) which aim to empower women in peace processes while protecting them from potential harm,
15
16 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolutions 62/214 “United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and
17 Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel” (2008) and
18 71/278 “United Nations action on sexual exploitation and abuse” (2017),
19
20 *Recognizing* the importance of implementing innovative and high quality training programs for peacekeepers in
21 order to avoid violations of the United Nations’ (UN) Standards of Conduct,
22
23 *Noting with approval* the Secretary-General’s report 71/818 on “Special measures for protection from sexual
24 exploitation and abuse: a new approach,” to put victims at the forefront of tackling Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
25 (SEA),
26
27 *Recalling* the importance of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 “gender equality,” and SDG 16 “peace, justice,
28 and strong institutions,” established in General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 2015, “Transforming our world: the
29 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,”
30
31 *Appreciating* the appointment of the first Victims’ Rights Advocate of the UN in 2017,
32
33 *Acknowledging* the steps taken by the UN to achieve greater involvement of women in leadership positions,
34
35 *Reminding* all Member States to focus on reinforcing the legitimacy of the UN’s reputation concerning its
36 worldwide reach, especially pertaining to cases of SEA in field missions,
37
38 *Noting with concern* that victims of SEA deserve a diligent and delicate investigation process that takes into account
39 their mental and emotional well-being,
40
41 *Drawing attention to* the zero-tolerance policy of the Secretary-General,
42
43 *Reaffirming* that the staff of the of Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs) are an invaluable asset of the UN, and that their
44 first priority is the protection of those affected by crisis and maintenance of peace among them,
45
46 *Emphasizing* the importance of collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in order to reestablish
47 trust between UN peacekeeping forces and affected communities,
48
49 *Acknowledging* that UN Children’s Fund’s (UNICEF) programs are essential to prevent SEA,

50
51 *Highly appreciating* the work of the Conduct and Discipline Unit (CDU) in UN field missions of ensuring that UN
52 personnel behave in a professional and disciplined manner,
53
54 *Recognizing* that the Department of Field Support (DFS) takes care of human resources and budgetary and financial
55 matters of peacekeeping,
56
57 *Stressing* the importance of financing and supporting reforms to combat SEA in an efficient way, with resources
58 shared from other UN bodies,
59
60 *Affirming* the importance of the Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual Assault and Abuse in providing victims
61 with assistance,
62
63 *Alarmed by* the lack of donations made by Member States to the Trust Fund, and the politicization of donations to
64 the Fund,
65
66 *Noting with satisfaction* the effectiveness of “No Excuse” cards acting as a physical reminder to peacekeepers on
67 field missions in time of moral ambiguity to prevent SEA, and to reinforce the need to integrate SEA education
68 programs,
69
70 *Reaffirming* the right of the victim to fair representation and efficient investigatory processes that are effective and
71 inclusive,
72
73 *Noting* the importance of consistency in judicial processes with regard to SEA to ensure effective action when
74 addressing allegations,
75
76 *Understanding* that measures to proliferate and support the prevention of SEA, should include mental health testing
77 and psychiatric diagnosis of peacekeepers,
78
79 *Recognizing* the importance of implementing cost-effective solutions through utilizing trained internal staff that are
80 already active in the affected areas,
81
82 *Emphasizing* the importance of having experienced professional investigators with special expertise in SEA cases,
83 appointed by the UN, in order to improve the credibility of the investigative processes,
84
85 *Expecting* the implementation of special training with instruction to peacekeepers and volunteers on procedures after
86 the recognition of committed SEA crimes, and hoping that victims are pointed to sources of proper help and
87 treatment immediately post-crime,
88
89 *Admiring* the transcendent work of the Ghanaian Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, in striving
90 to combat SEA by implementing daily training regimes on it to make substantial efforts to combat the extensive
91 problem,
92
93 *Noting* the extensive work of the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
94 (MONUSCO) Conduct and Discipline Team (CDT) for creating awareness campaigns for SEA in North Kivu
95 communities,
96
97 *Aware* of the implementation of Immediate Response Teams (IRTs) in the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti
98 (MINUSTAH) and the UN Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) in 2016,
99
100 1. *Encourages* the creation, with the collaboration of local governments, UNICEF, the UN Entity for Gender
101 Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and NGOs, of centers for support and reintegration
102 of victims of SEA, in zones where PKOs are present, to ensure the recovery, empowerment, and reintegration to
103 society of the victims, and with the focus on:
104

- 105 a. Providing a safe space for victims, to ensure their trust in the validity of the recovery process, by
106 ensuring an overall delicate and confidential investigative process, adapting the Barnahus Model as
107 currently exists in some Member States, that emphasizes the victim's well-being, taking care to avoid
108 re-traumatization by:
- 109
- 110 i. Interviewing the victim in a warm, casual environment with a trained professional, according
111 to an evidence-based protocol tailored to the victim's developmental age;
- 112 ii. Sparing the victim from having to share their story multiple times to different individuals by
113 having one interview, in a listening room, with the victim observed by the judge, prosecutor,
114 defense attorney, and victim's advocate;
- 115 iii. Videotaping the interview of the victim to use in court proceedings, should an indictment be
116 made, thus sparing the victim from having to be physically present during the trial;
- 117 iv. Assuring SEA victims of all genders and ages are afforded the same standard of care;
- 118
- 119 b. Giving victims access to professional assistance in the centers, which should be on par with the Sexual
120 Assault Kit designed by the National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology (NICC), respecting at
121 all times the victims' agency over their recovery process and giving them a separate room, including,
122 but not limited to:
- 123
- 124 i. General medical relief to assure the physical recovery and wellbeing of the victim;
- 125 ii. Sexual and reproductive aid, beginning with a forensic interview, to ensure the reproductive
126 wellbeing of victims is maintained while respecting national sovereignty;
- 127 iii. Psychological counseling and crisis support, with specific emphasis on the mental
128 rehabilitation of the victim and their families;
- 129
- 130 c. Ensuring its economic sustainability by:
- 131
- 132 i. Employing local professionals qualified for the line of work;
- 133 ii. Offering training and employment to former participants of the program, in order to
134 encourage them to help others who are going through similar situations and ensure their
135 economic agency;
- 136 iii. Ensuring gender equality between the personnel of the centers;
- 137
- 138 2. *Suggests* improving the training system of PKOs in order to ensure accountability in field missions, as well as
139 appropriate humanitarian behavior through the implementation of guideline policies that emphasize:
- 140
- 141 a. Raising security standards and improving preventive efforts in collaboration with Member States and
142 the DFS;
- 143
- 144 b. Integrating SEA, gender equality, and Code of Conduct in the standards that should be followed by all
145 PKOs;
- 146
- 147 c. The importance of Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) following training initiatives set forth by
148 other TCCs, which include universal peacekeeper training, as well as country-specific training with
149 regards to culture;
- 150
- 151 d. Working alongside the UN Ethics Office for volunteers and peacekeepers to follow proper procedures
152 when an incident is first reported by a victim;
- 153
- 154 e. Advocating for an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department of
155 Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and assisted Member States to require certification showing the
156 uniformed troops have been educated on SEA;
- 157
- 158 3. *Calls upon* UNICEF, UN-Women, and both national and international NGOs to cooperate on the matter of
159 educating and raising awareness concerning SEA cases and their consequences through their on-site teams in
160 the affected areas, by:

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- a. Collaborating with PKOs' Human Rights Teams to strengthen the trust in PKOs and the image of UN on local grounds;
 - b. Providing education to citizens in affected countries about the principles of peacekeeping operatives and their role in their countries;
 - c. Informing the locals about their rights, and the procedures on how to proceed in case of any misconduct in order to ensure justice;
4. *Requires* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the effectiveness of IRTs in MINUSCA and MINUSTAH, and to make suggestions towards the implementation of IRTs in other PKOs to be presented at the UN General Assembly Fifth Committee's 74th meeting in May 2019, with focus on:
- a. Evaluating their contribution to the investigation of SEA allegations and to prosecution assistance;
 - b. Calculating the amount of IRT personnel required to cover a PKO in relation to the peacekeeping personnel employed;
 - c. Evaluating cost efficiency and the additional costs for other PKOs;
5. *Seeks* to improve the SEA monitoring and reporting systems in field missions with the help of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to ensure a more efficient process, through:
- a. Establishing single reporting points in order to make the process more efficient and fast, through evaluations and reforms, with the goal of moving towards a more centralized system;
 - b. The improvement of accountability and transparency by making the information about SEA in field missions available through publicly accessible media;
 - c. The analysis of collected data over time through the monitoring of areas with high concentration of peacekeepers and volunteers, in order to detect present and future trends in SEA cases and behavior;
6. *Strongly encourages* an updated process of PKO screenings conducted by the DPKO, in collaboration with the CDU and volunteers from the World Health Organization (WHO), and taking into account TCC sovereignty by recommending guideline policies, for the medical entities within each peacekeeping mission, that establish:
- a. Psychological evaluations and criminal background checks prior to field assignment to ensure the peacekeeper's mental fitness, so they may best fulfill their role;
 - b. Psychological well-being check-ups upon the reassignment of active peacekeepers to a new mission every 6 months, so as to maintain adherence to the existing code of conduct among the peacekeeping operatives;
7. *Recommends* the CDU to issue a report that evaluates the performance of female peacekeepers in prevention of SEA by:
- a. Starting the evaluation at the beginning of 2019;
 - b. Analyzing the most affected peacekeeping operations of SEA;
 - c. Identifying the best position of female UN employees deployed in the field to facilitate a greater trustworthy communication line;
 - d. Calculating the needed budget to realize the implementation of female personnel in the requested position;

- 217
218 e. Sending the report to the General Assembly Fifth Committee in order to consider the realization of the
219 proposals in the report;
220
221 f. Empowering women by ensuring their presence in leadership positions;
222
- 223 8. *Calls for* the DFS, who is responsible for coordinating logistical support and framework needed for
224 peacekeeping operations, to:
225
- 226 a. Appoint DFS personnel to oversee the work of UN peacekeeping personnel on the ground to ensure no
227 acts of SEA are committed by UN peacekeeping personnel;
228
- 229 b. Use UN organizations such as OIOS, particularly the Inspection Evaluation Division (IED), will be
230 responsible to keep record of UN personnel action on the ground;
231
- 232 c. Compile data collected by the IED and be presented to the General Assembly First Committee on an
233 annual basis regarding advancements or complaints of quality UN peacekeeping work;
234
- 235 d. Accept recommendations made the General Assembly First Committee regarding the field work of UN
236 Peacekeepers to ensure execution by DFS personnel and then reported to back to the General
237 Assembly First Committee;
238
- 239 9. *Encourages* all Member States to ensure the adequate funding of Victims' Rights Advocates in the field,
240 introduced in chapter III, section A of UN Secretary-General's report 71/818 (2017), in the upcoming PKO
241 budget proposals, and *requires* the Secretary-General to prepare yearly reviews submitted to the Fifth
242 Committee on the achievements of the tasks given in chapter III, section A of the aforementioned report;
243
- 244 10. *Recommends* Member States to initiate in the cross-cultural competency programs with the cooperation of local
245 governments and civil society organizations (CSOs) to connect PKOs with local civilians regarding local
246 etiquette, gender relationships, and cultural norms;
247
- 248 11. *Further recommends* increased financial cooperation between NGOs and UN entities, such as the UN
249 Development Programme (UNDP), UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and UN-Women, to integrate help and
250 provide education and training for victims, communities, and peacekeepers;
251
- 252 12. *Advises* the Department of Public Information (DPI) to implement regular updates on PKO field missions on all
253 mediums of social media to increase transparency in the UN;
254
- 255 13. *Supports* a cooperation between CSOs and NGOs, as well as the UN bodies related to PKOs, to appoint
256 observers to oversee the work in field missions and report any incidents or signs of SEA;
257
- 258 14. *Encourages* that Member States and Observer States voluntarily contribute to the Trust Fund in Support of SEA
259 victims;
260
- 261 15. *Expresses* its interest in reviewing the DFS budgeting plan to assess its transparency for further
262 recommendations for acting upon improvement areas.



Code: GA5/1/4

Committee: General Assembly Fifth Committee

Topic: Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases

1 *The General Assembly Fifth Committee,*
2

3 *Draws attention to* the Secretary-General's report 71/818 (2017) on "Special measures for protection from sexual
4 exploitation and abuse: a new approach," that details a strategy to putting victims first, ending impunity, engaging
5 civil society and external partners, and improving strategic communications for education and transparency,
6

7 *Guided by* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, stated in
8 General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015), highlighting the importance of ensuring all people have access to quality
9 education,
10

11 Affirming the commitment to General Assembly resolution 61/279 (2007) on "Strengthening the capacity of the
12 United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations," with the focus on ensuring the commitment to
13 multilateral cooperation for the purpose of being able to respond and deploy rapidly to a peacekeeping operation,
14

15 *Realizing* the cultural pluralism that characterizes the United Nations (UN), and further highlights the crucial role
16 that diversity plays in our international community,
17

18 *Having adopted* Security Council resolution 2272 (2016) on "United Nations peacekeeping operations," that
19 recognizes the heterogeneity of Member States and Observer States while maintaining a level of cultural sensitivity
20 and political awareness of the climate and practices of field mission regions,
21

22 *Recognizing* the commitment to article 5 of the 2011 *United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and*
23 *Training*, to take into account all economic, social, and cultural circumstances while working to support sexual
24 exploitation and abuse (SEA) training and education,
25

26 *Supporting fully* Section III of Secretary-General's report 71/818 (2017), which calls for "putting the rights and
27 dignity of victims first," specifically paragraph 24, which calls for a greater number of women throughout UN
28 activities,
29

30 *Emphasizing* that SEA is a crime against any person, regardless of gender, age, or socio-economic background, as
31 stated in SDG 10 and reaffirmed by the Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to SEA in the context of
32 the UN,
33

34 *Alarmed and concerned* by the lack of accountability of some Troop-Contributing Countries to conduct swift and
35 thorough investigations, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) handle reports of possible misconduct
36 which addresses anonymous sourcing, malicious complaints, victim predication, questionable fact-finding methods
37 in regards to use of evidence, and unverifiable witness interviews in legal proceedings, subject interviews that are
38 biased, inconsistent documentation and recording methods, and the improper application of forensic methods for the
39 collection of trace, fragile, and other forms of physical evidence,
40

41 1. *Urges* the implementation of SDG 4 for quality education:
42

- 43 a. Providing fair inclusive education regarding Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs) by increasing their
44 representation in promotional and communication campaigns of peacekeepers through marketing and
45 awareness to local communities within Member States and Observer States, and adjusting facilities,
46 uniforms, and equipment within the better use of allocation of PKO funds to become culturally
47 appropriate;

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- b. Providing mandatory pre-deployment seminars that emphasize the cultural values of the area in which a PKO will be conducted, that detail ethnic relations, religious and social customs, basic language training, political ideology, and historical context, in order to facilitate mutual respect and understanding when faced with SEA cases;
 - c. Conducting seminar and training events quarterly that aim to educate the local community on the scope and purpose of PKO operations in the area, the standards of ethical conduct of peacekeepers, and dissemination of educational materials that outline how to recognize SEA incidents, support structures available to SEA victims and their families, and reporting options available to SEA victims;
2. *Endorses* peacekeeper training course curricula that will emphasize religious and cultural differences among Member States and Observer States, by hiring cultural sensitivity trainers that will educate peacekeepers about the diverse Member States they work and reside in;
3. *Highly encourages* expanding on the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Peacekeeping Training Program to the locals residing in the regions where peacekeepers are deployed in order to ensure that those locals are aware of the field mission's purpose, their rights as sovereign beings, and the process of reporting for SEA cases:
- a. Drawing attention to the respect needed toward the cultural and religious diversity of locals within Member States and Observer States subject to peacekeeping operations;
 - b. Requests that UN PKOs educate more women of their rights so they can recognize SEA cases and respond accordingly;
4. *Recalls* and suggesting the guidance from the Secretary-General's report 71/818 to end impunity by standardizing reporting mechanisms in an effort to expedite justice for victims, by providing two SEA victim reporting options, anonymous and open, that are consistently applied across all levels, local, regional, and internationally:
- a. Anonymous reporting provides victims with access to medical and emotional support while withholding from legal advances to ensure the victim's request of preservation of one's privacy;
 - b. Open reporting mechanisms afford the victim with access to anonymous medical and emotional support, initiating a full investigation of the incident, as such, gender equality should be especially emphasized in regards to medical care, in order to facilitate an environment that is accommodating to victim needs and desires;
 - c. Victims shall be afforded the option of reassignment of either the alleged offender or themselves to safeguard against retribution;
 - d. The investigation period shall last no longer than 60 days in order to ensure a timely and procedural resolution;
 - e. Data collection of reports should be collected and compiled by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as ECPAT International, following completion of investigative measures in order to improve transparency and analyze compliance by Member States in regards to SEA;
5. *Further recommends* to UN agencies such as the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) ways to strengthen reporting infrastructure that are essential to also strengthen accountability measures across all regions, with differing levels of access to technology:
- a. Such as an emergency hotline to be implemented in rural and war-torn Member States where field missions occur, that immediately puts a victim in contact with local police;

- 104 b. Data will be collected from every emergency hotline with each time the hotline was used, in order to
105 be managed and sent to a database at the UN Secretariat allowing for surveillance of Member States
106 needing additional oversight and training of troops;
107
- 108 c. Utilizing the Internal UN Anonymous (IUNA) smartphone application, to be developed by the UN
109 Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), and will serve as an anonymous
110 and confidential reporting interface of peacekeeper infractions regarding SEA in more developed
111 Member States, where there is increased access to smartphones and where field missions occur, and
112 reports will further be reviewed by the UN Ethics Office;
113
- 114 6. *Asks* that certain steps be introduced before troops should be repatriated by the Secretary-General, in accordance
115 to Security Council resolution 2272, these steps should go from local to international, such as follows:
116
- 117 a. Creation of joint partnered community organizations that facilitate dialogue and encourages
118 cooperation between local nationals and peacekeeping personnel in regards to SEA matters;
119
- 120 b. Encourages the training for locals and peacekeepers, stated in the aforementioned operative clauses,
121 fully make use of local community organizations, which are in charge of extensively reviewing and
122 analyzing circumstances that contributed to convictions of SEA incidents, in order to modify
123 preventative measures in the future;
124
- 125 c. Suggests that the Conduct and Discipline Teams (CDTs) collaborate with local advocates in the
126 following ways:
127
- 128 i. CDTs will train local advocates to conduct small-level investigations and the guidelines of
129 anonymous and open reporting, local advocates will provide investigation results to local
130 courts for minor cases of SEA;
131
- 132 ii. In conjunction with CDTs, local advocates will determine the severity of the cases in a
133 cultural context, and determine if they need to be pushed further up to international courts for
134 deliberation of how cases should be resolved;
135
- 136 b. Suggests the expansion of Conduct and Discipline Units (CDU) to include trained investigators that are
137 regionally diverse, with a sole focus of investigative measures of sexual exploitation and abuse with
138 regards to allegations of peacekeeping troops at regional level;
139
- 140 c. Investigator from CDUs will be deployed to investigate cases that cannot be handled at a local level, in
141 all cases the accused will be removed from the operation immediately for their and the victim's safety,
142 upon completion, reports will be sent to the appropriate level, based on the victim's specified avenue
143 of reporting.



Code: GA5/1/5

Committee: General Assembly Fifth Committee

Topic: Strengthening Compliance and Accountability in Field Missions with Special Regard to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Cases

1 *The General Assembly Fifth Committee,*

2
3 *Believing* in the ability of the Misconduct Tracking System (MTS) to provide information concerning cases of
4 sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA),

5
6 *Guided by* the principles embodied in the zero-tolerance policy, and recognizing the importance of the role of non-
7 governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) in preventing and handling cases of
8 sexual exploitation and abuse,

9
10 *Strengthening* the international justice system through the collaboration with the International Criminal Court (ICC),

11
12 *Affirming* the importance of ensuring that all troops on United Nations (UN) peacekeeping missions are compliant
13 with the UN Code of Personal Conduct as well as applicable international law, concerned with the fact that some
14 individuals fail to comply with this code of conduct, and thus seeing the need for improvement of pre-deployment
15 vetting,

16
17 *Appreciating* all efforts already undertaken by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) Integrated
18 Training Service (ITS) to train peacekeeping and other UN staff in the best possible way, especially the training by
19 the Conduct and Discipline Teams (CDTs) and the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs),

20
21 *Recognizing* the high importance of the DPKO- Department of Field Support (DFS) *Core Pre-Deployment Training*
22 *Materials (CPTM 2017) for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations* document,

23
24 *Fully aware* of the challenges in holding individuals accountable for their actions on UN field missions,

25
26 *Recalling* clause 15 of General Assembly resolution 72/18 (2017) on the activities of the Office of Internal
27 Oversight Services (OIOS), that encourages the office to consider calls to expand the recording and reporting of all
28 forms of misconduct as part of renewed efforts to strengthen and professionalize the investigative functions of the
29 UN system,

30
31 *Appreciating* support from all relevant CSOs and NGOs to the DPKO in solving SEA cases,

32
33 *Keeping in mind* the importance of the quick and efficient exchange of information from the independent reviews of
34 organisms regarding the analysis of the status quo during field missions, such as UN Watch's report *UN: Stop*
35 *Sexual Abuse by Peacekeepers* (2016) in order to have timely investigation and prosecution of offences, and the
36 importance of improving accuracy and comprehensiveness in reporting SEA cases, in accordance with General
37 Assembly resolution 57/306 (2003) on "Investigation into sexual exploitation of refugees by aid workers in West
38 Africa,"

39
40 *Expressing its appreciation* for the Secretary-General's proposition for the establishment of a 12-person SEA Task
41 Force,

42
43 *Reiterating* Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2010), 1960 (2011), 2106
44 (2013), 2122 (2013), and 2242 (2015) focusing on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, which aims at
45 integrating women in the peacemaking and peacekeeping processes,

46
47 *Convinced* that comprehensive training, education, information, and effective communication is a prerequisite for
48 the
49 effective prevention of SEA cases,

50
51 *Recognizing* the importance of the work of Ms. Jane Connors in the Central African Republic, as the first UN
52 Victims' Rights Advocate (VRA), who was appointed by Secretary-General António Guterres in August 2017 to
53 witness filing complaints and developing a system-wide mechanism,

54
55 *Noticing with concern* the ostracizing of women who have spoken out about SEA from their local communities, and
56 the need to eliminate the stigma that surrounds whistleblowers in the workplace,

57
58 *Emphasizing* the proposals of the Secretary-General within the reports 70/729 (2016) that emphasizes pre-
59 deployment training, 71/818 (2017) that – in comparison to earlier approaches – weighs heavily on the victim's
60 dignity and rights, as well as 72/751 (2018), and noting the positive impact that e-learning training for UN personnel
61 conducted by the DFS has had on tackling SEA,

62
63 *Highlighting* the outcomes of the UN-Female Military Officers Courses (FMCO) carried out by the UN Entity for
64 Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), training female military officers and increasing
65 their numbers in field missions,

66
67 *Recalling* the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (1979), including the
68 definition of discrimination against women as "...any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex
69 which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women,
70 irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental
71 freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field,"

72
73 *Expressing* its appreciation to Member States' efforts to increase the number of female peacekeepers within troops
74 sent for peacekeeping operations, *recalling* Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), which states the importance of
75 female personnel, and *highlighting* the recommendations of the 2015 UN Police's Gender Toolkit, which highlights
76 the case studies of Zambia and Liberia with that regard,

77
78 *Recalling* Security Council resolution 2272 (2016) on empowering the Secretary-General to repatriate troops in
79 cases where appropriate preventive steps have not been taken by Member States,

- 80
81 1. *Suggests* that the MTS be used to:
82
83 a. Isolate systemic weaknesses such as lack of compliance with peacekeeping norms and codes of
84 conduct, and lack of accountability for actions by failing to punish perpetrators;
85
86 b. Provide recommendations for reform within the areas of pre-deployment training, investigation,
87 reporting, and the role of women within peacekeeping operations, with regard to optimizing the
88 utilization of resources on peacekeeping operations;
89
90 2. *Encourages* further cooperation with NGOs and CSOs, such as the International Peace Institute and AIDS-free
91 World, for their continued endorsement and support of the Zero-Tolerance Policy regarding the prevention and
92 deterrence of subsequent instances of SEA, in order to foster a UN environment in which SEA is not tolerated
93 and which can be achieved through NGO and CSO advisory involvement in oversight, advocacy, and inclusion
94 within investigative processes;
95
96 3. *Recommends* the strengthening of background investigations carried out by the DPKO and DFS on
97 peacekeeping personnel appointed by the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) before being confirmed by the
98 UN, to ensure effective pre-deployment screening and vetting of personnel limited to:
99

- 100 a. Checks of personnel criminal records with special regard for sexual offences, including alleged
101 criminal offences and violations of international law;
102
- 103 b. Checks that uniformed personnel have not been repatriated on disciplinary grounds relating to SEA in
104 prior missions;
105
- 106 4. *Suggests* improvement of the already-existing mandatory pre-deployment and in-mission training conducted by
107 the DPKO's ITS and CDTs, respectively, to raise awareness of SEA cases, including awareness towards any
108 kind of behavior or conditions that lead to or facilitate SEA, by:
109
- 110 a. Ensuring that training personnel are familiar with and sensitive to differences in the cultural
111 backgrounds of the staff to be trained for avoiding misunderstandings;
112
- 113 b. Focus on improving teaching methods in order to make training content more comprehensible;
114
- 115 c. Including data collected in the MTS into the already-existing training needs assessments (TNAs) that
116 are conducted periodically by the ITS in order to assess the impact of pre-deployment training on the
117 number of SEA cases;
118
- 119 d. Instructing UN personnel on simplified procedure plans pertaining to the appropriate response to SEA
120 cases that were reported or witnessed by them;
121
- 122 e. Increasing the number of mandatory training sessions by 25%, that staff involved in Peacekeeping
123 Operations (PKOs) must attend during field missions;
124
- 125 f. Calling for the wider use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the training of UN
126 personnel to aid in the prevention of SEA cases;
127
- 128 g. Working together closely with other UN entities and specialized agencies that have expertise on the
129 issues dealt with in the trainings, to increase expertise on topics related to SEA;
130
- 131 5. *Encourages* the Secretariat and the Security Council to only deploy personnel for peacekeeping operations who
132 pass the test in module 3, lesson 3.4, "Sexual Exploitation and Abuse," of the DPKO-DFS *Core Pre-*
133 *Deployment Training Materials (CPTM 2017) for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations*, under the
134 following conditions:
135
- 136 a. Extending the test by updating and adding new questions to the questionnaire, based on the
137 recommendations by CSOs and academic research institutes;
138
- 139 b. Presenting the enhanced test to the General Assembly Fifth Committee by 2020 for final approval;
140
- 141 c. Conducting and evaluating the test by using DPKO personnel;
142
- 143 d. Recommending that passing the test be measured by a score of at least 75%;
144
- 145 6. *Urges* all UN peacekeepers, especially commanding officers, to emphasize the importance of the UN Policy on
146 Accountability for Conduct and Discipline in Field Missions, and Rule Number 4 of the *Code of Personal*
147 *Conduct for Blue Helmets* as ways to institutionalize the Zero-Tolerance Policy within the UN system;
148
- 149 7. *Encourages* Member States to implement regional mechanisms similar to that of the Council of Europe's, in
150 order to criminalize SEA against children by:
151
- 152 a. Encouraging the establishment of studies conducted with the aid of Economic and Social Council
153 (ECOSOC) and the cooperation of NGOs analogous to Amnesty International, to understand the
154 existing overall situation through available sources of information, including:
155

- 156 i. Documents of UN oversight bodies such as OIOS and the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU);
157
158 ii. NGO and CSO reports to inform UN reports of the perspective of outside bodies;
159
160 iii. News stories documenting cases of SEA;
161
162 b. Identifying factors leading to this form of exploitation, such as lack of personal safety, isolation, and
163 emotional distress;
164
165 c. Performing a qualitative survey through the DFS of the experiences of witnesses, preventers, and
166 perpetrators of SEA, as a method of increasing awareness of this issue;
167
- 168 8. *Requests* that OIOS improve their whistleblower protections through the opening of a new way of denouncing
169 abuse and violations in field missions, specifically:
170
171 a. Creating a platform called the PKO Ethics Helpline, where UN field staff can report suspicions of
172 potential SEA cases;
173
174 b. Enabling peacekeepers to anonymously report in order to provide an independent service, and
175 assurance to callers of confidentiality;
176
- 177 9. *Recommends* the DPKO hire compliance officers to ensure all accusations of SEA against peacekeepers are
178 formally documented, so that they face legal consequences for their actions, with the goal of:
179
180 a. Mitigating and eventually ending all cases of SEA in UN field missions by:
181
182 i. Monitoring the behavior of peacekeepers in the field to ensure they are meeting the
183 expectations outlined in the standardized ITS training;
184
185 ii. Standardizing the reporting system used by UN compliance officers, in order to ensure all
186 complaints and allegations of SEA are handled efficiently and effectively;
187
188 b. Assisting Member States in holding perpetrators accountable for actions committed outside their home
189 country by:
190
191 i. Maintaining communication between compliance officers in the field, and law enforcement
192 officials in countries deploying peacekeepers;
193
194 ii. Strengthening measures undertaken under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, to
195 improve local justice systems in order to ensure timely prosecution of offenders in their home
196 countries, that is in accordance with the rule of law and is strong enough to serve as a
197 deterrent;
198
- 199 10. *Suggests* considering closer cooperation between UN entities in field mission regions, especially CDT offices
200 and local police entities, for the exchange of information on reported offenses of SEA, in order to facilitate the
201 investigation and prosecution of these offenses;
202
- 203 11. *Emphasizes* the need for the formation of the Secretary-General António Guterres' 12-Person Task Force on the
204 eradication of SEA, to directly combat SEA in any country of conflict by:
205
206 a. Endorsing the UN Task Force's capability to provide continued oversight in affected areas of operation
207 in the eradication of SEA on peacekeeping missions, as demonstrated in the Central African Republic,
208 Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, and South Sudan;
209

- 210 b. Fulfilling the request for future high-level Victims' Rights Advocates (P-5) by means of Secretary-
211 General's Budgetary Discretion to be included into specific peacekeeping missions' respective
212 budgets;
213
- 214 c. Encouraging the appointment of qualified UN personnel for the remaining positions recommended for
215 the programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019 by the Secretary-General, which are Under-
216 Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General, P-5, P-4, P-3, and General Service;
217
- 218 12. *Encourages*, in the spirit of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, the Task Force on Gender Parity and
219 Equality in the UN System as well as Member States, to reduce gender inequalities within peacekeeping
220 personnel, including civilians, military, and police officers, along with the DFS, Department of Political Affairs
221 (DPA), and Department of Management (DM), by consideration of gender sensitivity as a priority in the process
222 of employment of UN personnel, and involving women on all levels of PKOs including leadership positions:
223
- 224 a. Strengthening the relationships with society within the area of peacekeeping mission and facilitation of
225 in order to strengthen civilian's trust in UN institutions during peacekeeping missions, and building a
226 dialogue between local vulnerable populations and PKOs by making PKO personnel more
227 approachable to women, as well as enhancement of reporting culture of SEA cases, and resolving the
228 issue of perpetrator's impunity, considering victims might feel more comfortable sharing their traumas
229 with other females;
230
- 231 b. Working towards the goal of 25% of civilian PKO personnel and 6% for non-civilian PKO personnel
232 deployed to be women within field missions;
233
- 234 c. By strengthening the reporting system and documentation process through:
235
- 236 i. Collecting data to provide studies and surveys on recruitment and retention through tracking
237 accurate data on women's representation and experiences in the military, therefore reinforcing
238 the Global Working Group (GWG) on Big Data for Official Statistics;
239
- 240 ii. Introducing the following indicators to measure the effectiveness of implementation:
241
- 242 1. Percentage of women in peacekeeping staff;
243
- 244 2. Representation of women in all levels of command in PKOs, including leadership
245 positions;
246
- 247 3. Promotion opportunities for female peacekeepers in relation to male peacekeepers;
248
- 249 4. Salary gap between male and female peacekeepers;
250
- 251 iii. Promoting cooperation with OIOS to establish an annual reporting system highlighting the
252 progress of the Task Force on Gender Parity and Member States, in respect to these indicators
253 to the UN General Assembly, which is also published to the general public to promote
254 compliance with the reporting requirements to make the annual reports as accurate and
255 transparent as possible;
256
- 257 13. *Recommends* the increasing of specialized female training for all ranks of UN peacekeepers in field missions,
258 which:
259
- 260 a. Elaborate on how to react and spot SEA cases in civil society, with special regard to uphold gender
261 sensitivities;
262
- 263 b. Strengthen the compliance of peacekeepers to report SEA cases in order to maintain the UN Standards
264 of Conduct, by providing specialized training material;
265

- 266 c. Empowers female peacekeepers to act as role models in the local environment by:
267
268 i. Equipping female peacekeepers with a special skillset, creating better leadership as well as
269 promotion opportunities;
270
271 ii. Such as providing strategies for mediation and negotiation in conflict situations to empower
272 female peacekeepers to successfully collaborate at all levels;
273
274 d. Is coordinated by the ITS in cooperation with UN-Women;
275
- 276 14. *Welcomes* a stronger cooperation between the DPKO and UN-Women, to ensure more efficient work with
277 women in the local areas by:
278
279 a. Suggesting the expansion of the presence of the Victims' Rights Advocate (VRA) within peacekeeping
280 missions, and requests them to assist the establishment of local inquiries at the area of PKOs, with an
281 aid of UN-Women, and focal points experts to allow victims to give testimony and to state their needs
282 in terms of assistance, in order to:
283
284 i. Increase the level of reporting culture by SEA victims and eliminate the risk of SEA cases
285 concealment;
286
287 ii. Enhance the level of DFS and VRA awareness of victims' necessities to increase the quality
288 and relevance of assistance provided to civilians;
289
290 b. Encouraging the establishment of more National Committees as connections to local governments to
291 facilitate the reporting process, while respecting cultural differences and working with existing UN
292 bodies, lowering costs within the budget as no new funds are being established;
293
- 294 15. *Calls upon* the Strategic Communications Division to encourage and support the improvement of current
295 educational programs for local civilians with special regard to women's and SEA victims' rights, in educating
296 people for increasing their awareness and relevant knowledge about SEA through stronger cooperation between
297 the DFS and local communities, as well as NGOs, in the following ways:
298
299 a. Holding regular briefings and lectures for possible victims and vulnerable groups focusing on common
300 forms of SEA, their rights, and the Code of Conduct for peacekeeping staff;
301
302 b. Hosting grassroots meetings including parties involved in SEA issues to further exchange ideas about
303 local solutions to SEA cases;
304
305 c. Holding the local communities in charge of the educational programs in the long term to establish a
306 sustainable educational system;
307
- 308 16. *Suggests* considering to encourage TCCs not to send troops for a period of one year if they have had the highest
309 percentage of proven cases of SEA in relation to their contributed troops in the previous five years.