



Tentative Agenda
Regional Conference on
Enhancing the Performance of Peacekeeping Operations: From Mandate to Exit
18-19 November 2018
Conrad Hotel, Cairo, Egypt

Sunday 18 November 2018

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration**

9:00 – 9:30 **Opening Session**

Followed by Group Photo

9:30 – 10:45 **Session 1: “UN Peacekeeping in Complex Environments: An Overview”**

Guiding Questions:

- What are some of the major trends and challenges of today’s peacekeeping environment?
- What are the implications of these evolving challenges on current and future peacekeeping operations from mandate to exit?
- How can we enhance the complementarity of efforts between UN Peacekeeping missions and other efforts on the ground (political process, peacebuilding, counterterrorism etc.)?

10:45 – 11:15 **Coffee Break**

11:15 – 12:30 **Session 2: “Prioritized and Achievable Mandates”**

Guiding Questions:

- How can peacekeeping mandates be designed to contribute to resolving, rather than managing, conflicts (primacy of politics)?
- What changes need to be introduced to the mandating process (design, implementation, and review of UN peacekeeping mandates) to ensure that mandates support a broader political strategy to resolve the conflict and are adaptable to changing political and field dynamics?

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch

13:30 – 15:30 **Session 3: “Readiness & Discipline of Peacekeepers”**

Guiding Questions:

- How can we ensure that peacekeeping personnel have the adequate equipment and capabilities to operate with greater



efficiency in complex environments?

- What policies and measures should be introduced to improve conduct and discipline? What can be done to reinforce the zero-tolerance policy and prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in peacekeeping?
- How can we improve training and capacity-building programs so as to close the gap between expectations and actual performance of peacekeeping personnel in the field?

19:00

Dinner hosted by the Egyptian Ministry of Defense (location and speaker TBC)

Monday 19 November 2018

9:00 – 10:30

Session 4: “Integrated Mission Performance – Views from the Ground”

Guiding Questions:

- What are some of the major operational gaps and challenges in multidimensional peacekeeping missions?
- How can the composition/configuration of peacekeeping mission be adapted to changes in the mandates in response to evolving operational dynamics and circumstances on the ground?
- What are the potential benefits of the reforms of the UN peace and security pillar in terms of operational coherence and coordination in UN peacekeeping both at the Headquarters and field levels? How should these changes reflect positively upon the overall mission performance?

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:15

Breakout Discussions

Aspects of Peacekeeping Mission Performance

Breakout Discussion 1: “Leadership, Command & Control”

Guiding Questions:

- What are some of the challenges relating to command and control arrangements in UN peacekeeping?
- How can greater operational oversight be achieved?
- Leadership is critical for effective command and control. What skills and competencies are sought after in mission leaders and how can we assess performance?

Breakout Discussion 2: “Safety and Security of Peacekeeping Personnel”

Guiding Questions:

- With UN peacekeeper fatalities in 2017 at their highest levels since 1994, how can peacekeeping missions be adapted to operate safely in high-risk environments? How does such risk affect peacekeeping performance?



- What are the potential impact of the recently introduced UN Action-Plan on increasing safety and security for peacekeepers?

Breakout Discussion 3: “Peacekeeping Mission Support & Equipment”

Guiding Questions:

- Mission support is a key enabler for mandate implementation. What is necessary to achieve more rapid and effective mission support? How can we better prioritize missions’ field support needs?
- In which ways does insufficient/inadequate equipment affect the overall performance of a peacekeeping mission?
- To what extent has the introduction of “smart pledges” address the shortfalls of equipment in peacekeeping missions?
- What are the advantages and shortcomings of the existing PCRS?

Break-out Discussion 4: “Female Participation in UN Peacekeeping”

Guiding Questions:

- What distinct qualities do women bring to peacekeeping?
- What are the barriers to increasing the number of female military and police personnel?
- How can we foster a culture of gender equality in peacekeeping?

12:15 – 13:30

Lunch

13:30 – 14:30

Session 5: “Transition & Exit: Towards Sustaining Peace

Guiding Questions:

- How can we ensure that peacekeeping is part of a larger and comprehensive political strategy aimed at sustaining peace? What indicative guidelines should the Security Council and the UN Secretariat consider to this end during the life cycle of a peacekeeping mission?
- To what extent do peacekeeping missions contribute to enhancing national capacities and entities; therefore, ensuring national ownership and sustainable peace?
- How can we better plan and manage the transition and drawdown of contemporary UN peacekeeping missions? What are the potential impact of UN reforms of the UNDS and the UN Peace and Security pillar on improving this process?

14:30 – 16:00

Session 6: “Strengthening Partnerships and Cooperation in Peacekeeping”

Guiding Questions:

- How can the UN effectively leverage the comparative advantage of regional and sub-regional organizations? What lessons



can be learned from the AU-UN partnership (e.g. UNAMID, AMISOM)?

- How can we ensure adequate, predictable and sustained funding for current and future regionally-led peacekeeping missions?

16:00- 17:00

Wrap-up Session: Towards Enhanced Performance of Peacekeeping Operations.

17:00

Closing Address: