



Statement

by

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at the
Fourth Committee

**“Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations
in all their aspects”**

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Check Against Delivery

*Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations
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At the outset, we extend our thanks to the Under Secretary-Generals for Peacekeeping Operations and for Field Support for their valuable introductory statements. Lebanon aligns itself with statement made by Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

The success of UN peacekeeping requires partnership and regular consultations between the SC, the Secretariat, TCCs and PCCs. We advocate further involvement of TCCs and PCCs in all the planning and deployment stages of UN peacekeeping operations.

Peacekeeping should not be an end in itself but rather part of a solution. Comprehensive resolution of conflicts by dealing with their root causes whether political or social or economic, remains the objective. In our region, an end to the Israeli occupation in Palestine and Syria and Lebanon, the root cause of the conflict, is a prerequisite to any comprehensive resolution and successful transition of UN peacekeeping missions in the Middle East.

Peacekeeping is not an alternative to an inclusive political process; it rather provides space for such processes that can guarantee the protection of civilians and achievement of sustainable peace.

Respect for the safety and security of UN peacekeepers and positions is not only critical for the implementation of their mandates, but is also a measure of the primacy of International Law and the respect of Security Council resolutions.

Mr. Chairman,

Lebanon considers that the main underpinnings of success of peacekeeping operations rest on the following elements:

First: Developing clear and achievable mandates matched with the required resources and timely logistical support.

Second: Adherence to the general principles of peacekeeping.

Third: A strong link between peacekeeping and peacebuilding; the interactions between security and development are clearer than ever.

Fourth: Strengthening the role of regional and sub-regional organisations in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter, specifically the African Union.

Mr. Chairman,

Peacekeeping remains the most cost-effective method to avoid conflict, and the goal is the realization of a more efficient one adapted to the new complex realities of military, police, civilian and humanitarian components all together in some missions, and mandates that are less between states but more so on interstate conflicts.

We all want to enhance productivity and lower costs, and we all want to do more with less, but not through stretching troops thin to cover geographic areas that exceed their capacities or at the expense of their ability to operate in challenging environments.

To achieve that goal and to ensure the creation of a more predictable, professional, accountable peacekeeping system, we should emphasize the key role of the C34 in policy formulation and development. We should also enhance regular coordination on peacebuilding tasks with the PBC in a manner that stresses national ownership and prioritization of peacebuilding needs.

Also to ensure that peacekeeping remains an expression of our collective security actions, we should enlarge the TCCs base in a manner that responds to the scope and scale of peacekeeping needs.

Mr. Chairman,

As peacekeeping now appears to be entering a period of consolidation after a substantial period of growth, it is high time to draw on lessons learned in order to improve the critical early peacebuilding tasks undertaken by peacekeepers. We shouldn't only focus on areas such as police, corrections, DDR, and SSR among others, but also on economic revival and sustainable development. Today, the international community perceives SSR within the broader framework of peace consolidation and institution-building for countries emerging from conflict, as the link between SSR and socio-economic development is clearer than ever.

It is clear today that peacekeeping and peacebuilding are not sequential, it is also clear that transition should be based on benchmarking against indicators in all fields.

On capability development, we all know where the critical gaps are, thus we need a comprehensive capability-driven approach that addresses uniformed capability requirements, including force enablers like air assets, as well as civilian ones. And on global field support, we are glad that the Secretariat has moved from "a mission-centric" to a more "global management" approach.

Mr. Chairman,

Turning now to Lebanon, we reiterate the full support of the Lebanese people and their government to UNIFIL and UNTSO. We also reiterate our condemnation in the strongest terms of all attacks which have targeted UNIFIL and UNTSO.

The Lebanese people highly appreciate the important role that UNIFIL plays in south Lebanon and fully recognizes the grave sacrifices it suffered. UNIFIL has been steadfast in its support for the Lebanese people in their efforts to end the Israeli occupation of their land. UNIFIL is also our partner in mine clearance and in development efforts in south Lebanon.

The Lebanese people and their Government express their sincere thanks and appreciation to the peoples and Governments of each and every troop-contributing country.

Thank you.