



**Statement**

**by**

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Deputy Permanent Representative of Lebanon  
to the United Nations**

**at the  
Fourth Committee**

**Item 52: Comprehensive review of the whole question  
of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects**

**New York, October 29, 2014**

*Check Against Delivery*

*Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations  
866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 531, New York, NY. 10017*

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to start by thanking you for organizing this meeting, and through you I would like to express my delegation's deep appreciation for the comprehensive presentations by the Under Secretary Generals of DPKO and DFS.

Mr. Chairman,

On the eve of the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations, the world might not look safer nor more prosperous. Therefore, more than ever, we should invest in this organization and its mission, revitalize its role and sharpen its tools, in particular peacekeeping operations.

Indeed, the evolution of the nature of conflicts and the changes in the operating environment demand an innovative approach to UN peacekeeping, from traditional to multidimensional missions, and necessitate a thorough and in depth analysis of best practices, political resolution and the matching of adequate resources for these operations in order to become more mobile, flexible and adaptable.

It is important to recognize that the review of PKOs should be deeply rooted in the well established principles of these operations, and should maintain the centrality of the role of the C34 as the intergovernmental process for negotiations regarding policies.

My delegation recognizes all the efforts made by DPKO and DFS to finalize guidance and strategies and to streamline the leadership of the peacekeeping mission, as well as increasing the participation of women and ensuring effective control and command. In this regard, we reaffirm that the successful outcome of these mandates will depend on the development of common strategies, such as between DPKO and UNDP, as well as partnership and cooperation such as the enhancement of regional, South-South and triangular cooperation in order to reach a peaceful solution and to maintain sustainable peace and security. Indeed, the increasing complexity of conflicts requires greater collaboration between local, national and regional actors, but also between the C-34, the Security Council, the TCCs and PCCs, the Secretariat and other UN agencies.

The success of these partnerships hinges upon the strong relationship with host countries, whereas the interaction with civilian population and armed forces are of paramount importance.

It is also necessary to continue to incorporate post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding components in today's PKOs. These missions must support national institutions and capacity building which include the rule of law, security sector reform, good governance, and DDR. These components will ensure a smooth transition to build national ownership, from peacekeeping to maintaining and sustaining the peace.

The Protection of Civilians is important as well. While DPKO and the Department of Field Support worked on a conceptual framework on PoC, developed PoC training courses and supported the development of comprehensive POC strategies, improvements are still necessary in this regard, through a holistic approach.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation would like to emphasize the issue of integrating gender perspectives, and in particular, the policy of gender mainstreaming, as women play a key role in the establishment and stabilization of peace.

In this regard, we reaffirm the importance of the inclusion of women's perspectives at every strategic and operational level, in all sectors such as SSR, DDR, police, military and elections, and that the Gender Training Modules should be further integrated.

Mr. Chairman,

I speak on behalf of a host country of one of the oldest peacekeeping operations in the world: UNTSO as well as UNIFIL which was created as a result of repetitive Israeli aggressions. A country who has been working relentlessly to ensure full respect of its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. Time and again, my government reiterated its commitment to the full implementation of resolution 1701 and called on the international community to compel Israel to abide by its obligations under said resolution, to withdraw from the remaining Lebanese occupied territories and to put an end to its violations of Lebanon's sovereignty by land, air and sea.

Time and again, we highlighted the excellent relationship between the Lebanese Armed Forces and UNIFIL at the operational and coordination levels, and we cautioned from Israeli attempts to undermine these efforts and the credibility of UNIFIL and the Lebanese Army. We reaffirmed that through the tripartite mechanism, UNIFIL can prevent any unilateral and provocative actions which might lead to escalation.

Respect for the safety and security of UN peacekeepers is of paramount importance to the implementation of missions' mandate. Crimes, as the 1996 Israeli attack on the UNIFIL quarters in Qana and the 2006 Israeli attack on the post of UNTSO should never be repeated and their perpetrators should be held accountable.

It is also important to underline that the strategic dialogue between the Lebanese Armed Forces and UNIFIL has been strengthened, and that the coordination mechanism is cornerstone to facilitating and streamlining assistance to build up Lebanese Armed Forces capabilities. In this regard, my delegation highly values the continued support expressed in particular during the successive meetings of the International Support Group for Lebanon whether in New York, or Rome. Now is the time to expedite the delivery of this support. It is only by reinforcing its capacities that the Lebanese Army will be able to fulfill its tasks in cooperation with UNIFIL in the south of Lebanon, and will be able to combat terrorism and maintain security and stability in the country.

Allow me Mr. Chairman, to commend the work of all peacekeepers around the world starting with those deployed in my country, the Force Commander, women and men, for their tireless efforts to fulfilling their mandate, and laud the commitment of every troop contributing country. They share with the local population the hopes and dreams, and strive to build a better and more peaceful tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman,

There is no more noble a goal, no greater a sacrifice than the decision of peacekeepers to leave their homes and loved ones and to serve the cause of peace, security and justice.

I thank you Mr. Chairman