



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing on UN peacekeeping operations:
Police Commissioners
Thursday 27 February 2025**

**Statement of Greece, delivered by
H.E. Ambassador Evangelos Sekeris
Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York**

Thank you, Mr. President,

I welcome this exchange with SG Under-Secretary-General Jean-Pierre Lacroix, UN Police Adviser Faisal Shahkar and the Heads of the police components of MINUSCA Mr. Bizimungu, and of UNFICYP Ms. Xu.

To begin with, Greece wishes to express a deep gratitude to the men and women police officers who are committed into serving under the most challenging circumstances, while protecting civilians and maintaining law and order. At the same time, we honour the memory of all those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Mr. President,

United Nations peacekeeping is one of the most effective tools available to the UN in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security. The United Nations police (UNPOL) are an essential component of peacekeeping.

I wish to outline some main points of importance for Greece:

Firstly, it is imperative to urgently implement of the Pact of the Future, and especially Action 21, with which we committed to “adapt peace operations to better respond to existing challenges and new realities”. The adaptation should consider the needs of all Member States and troop- and police-contributing countries, and the priorities and responsibilities of host countries. Peace operations can only succeed when political solutions are actively pursued and they have predictable, adequate and sustained financing.

Moreover, we encourage the implementation of the proposals of the New Agenda for Peace on reinforcing and strengthening UN peacekeeping capacities, to operationalize rapid responses to emerging crises. We also support efforts to implement the priorities outlined in the Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) initiative, as well as the Action for Peace Plus (A4P+) initiative.

Secondly, we echo all those believing that the UN Police have an important role to play in protecting civilians as part of their engagement with the local population. Police-contributing countries should ensure that the personnel they deploy are adequately trained, including with regard to protection operations.

Thirdly, UN Police's role for the improvement of the host State's police capabilities, in a way that it can ensure the safety of its citizens, can be crucial. In particular, UN Police can support capacity building programmes and promote gender parity within the host State's police. We call the Council to support the relevant efforts of all those missions.

Mr. President,

We value the briefing provided by Ms. Xu, Senior Police Adviser of UNFICYP. UNPOL is working in collaboration with UNFICYP's Military and Civil Affairs components as part of a "three-pillar" concept, contributing to the maintenance and restoration of law and order in the buffer zone in Cyprus.

Police officers deployed in UNFICYP need to possess a good knowledge of the local conditions with the ability to evaluate the implications of economic, political, cultural and historical sensitivities in the region. We thank them for their service.

Mr. President,

It is our belief that UN policing can more effectively integrate women's empowerment into a host country's development by implementing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. This can be achieved in particular by financing and actively supporting women's participation and leadership for peace, by ensuring safe participation, and by ensuring broader gender responsiveness in peace processes and peace agreements, especially in the respective mediation contexts.

Mr. President,

In concluding, let us not forget that the ultimate objective of UN peacekeeping is to achieve durable political solutions to conflict, something that requires the unified political support of Member States — and particularly of the Security Council.

I would like to reiterate Greece's readiness to continue to contributing to the efforts of the United Nations Police in this respect.

I thank you