

# UNCOPS

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**United Nations Chiefs of Police Summit 2022 • 31 AUG - 1 SEP**

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## CHAIR'S NOTE

**NEW YORK, 1 SEPTEMBER 2022**

1. Attending the third United Nations Chiefs of Police Summit (UNCOPS) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, Ministers, Chiefs of Police and high-level officials from 121 Member States, as well as representatives from several partner organizations, unanimously recognized the fundamental contribution of United Nations Police to maintaining international peace and security since their first deployment over six decades ago, as well as their significant evolution in both scope and scale.
2. In the spirit of the Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) initiative, Action for Peacekeeping Plus (A4P+) priorities, Agenda 2030 and Our Common Agenda, participants acknowledged an increased role for United Nations Police in supporting host-State counterpart efforts to address evolving threats to communities around the globe. Such threats include high levels of violence in densely populated settings; the continued expansion of transnational organized crimes; violent extremism; mis- and disinformation; widespread human rights violations; pressing humanitarian needs; and increased risks from climate and cyber insecurity. Addressing these challenges will require "representative, responsive and accountable"<sup>1</sup> institutions and action.
3. Participants also pledged their support to equipping United Nations Police with necessary capacities and capabilities, such as (i) increased nominations of women police officers and officers with required language and intercultural skills across all functions and ranks (including specialized police teams (SPTs) and formed police units (FPUs)); (ii) making available new technologies, innovations, training courses and knowledge; and (iii) sharing expertise in areas such as investigations, data analytics and management, and environmental crime. These efforts will help United Nations Police meet evolving challenges while further improving their performance, effectiveness and, ultimately, the positive impact they have in the communities they serve.
4. High-level government officials, police executives and other participants:

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 34/169 of 17 December 1979 on the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials.

- Acknowledged that promoting and protecting human rights-compliant, gender- and environmentally responsive, as well as evidenced-based, policing practices is essential for the rule of law, sustainable peace and development.
- Recognized the domestic and regional advantages of deploying their police officers to serve with United Nations Police, as regards institutional, professional and personal development, and committed themselves to reinforce and expand their contributions to the seven A4P+ priorities and the cross-cutting themes of technology and innovation and Women, Peace and Security (WPS);
- Appreciated the role United Nations Police play in contributing to lasting peace and development by helping advance the Sustainable Development Goals and the Secretary-General's Our Common Agenda; and
- Reaffirmed their commitment to help bridge key gaps to ensure United Nations Police performance in the face of evolving global challenges so that, as stated by the Secretary-General, "outstanding performance becomes the standard".

#### ADDRESSING KEY CHALLENGES FACING UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING THROUGH A4P AND A4P+

5. Participants acknowledged the contribution of United Nations Police to coherent regional, national and local political strategies through police capacity-building and development, as well as community-oriented policing efforts, which support political priorities and can counter public discontent and negative rhetoric on social media.
6. Given peacekeepers' exposure to complex and volatile security environments - as evidenced by the two-fold increase in fatalities due to malicious acts since 2020 - participants also welcomed United Nations Police's support to the Action Plan to Implement the Report on Improving the Security of Peacekeepers. United Nations Police will continue to assist host-State counterparts to address crimes committed against peacekeepers and help to improve the security of host-State communities and counterparts.
7. Participants also emphasized the importance of confronting systemic challenges that often compound existing risks, such as the inequitable impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the threats posed by environmental degradation, climate change and loss of biodiversity. Commitments were made to provide capabilities that are based on renewable energy and to deploy police officers trained in environmental management; to integrate technical tools and innovation in United Nations policing in support of the implementation of the [Secretary-General's Data Strategy](#) and the [digital transformation of United Nations peacekeeping](#); and to provide expertise on gender-responsive policing to ensure that the different security needs of women, girls, men and boys are equally considered.

#### FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH UNITED NATIONS POLICING

8. Building on their commitments expressed in the [UN75 Declaration](#), which calls for reinvigorated multilateralism to achieve a more equal and resilient world, Member States recognized the positive multiplier effect that the almost 10,000 authorized United Nations Police women and

men from 84 Member States can have in realizing the Secretary-General's ambitious vision set out in [Our Common Agenda](#), in response to the Declaration and as part of a United Nations 2.0.

9. Specifically, participants acknowledged their police services' potential contributions and support to United Nations Police in line with the New Agenda for Peace, which will aim to focus on prevention and violence reduction, thereby renewing the global consensus around cooperation for collective security.
10. Equal attention was placed on efforts to develop a New Vision for the Rule of Law and the support required to operationalize it, including through United Nations platforms such as the Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Policing, with human rights mainstreamed throughout in furtherance of the Call to Action for Human Rights.
11. Participants also elaborated on the enabling role of national and United Nations Police in furthering goals set in the Agenda 2030, as also illustrated in the alignment of the [Global Policing Goals](#).

#### **BRIDGING THE GAP ON PERFORMANCE**

12. Building on their commitment to renew political support for peacekeeping as outlined in the [2018 Declaration of Shared Commitments on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations](#), participants espoused support of ongoing peacekeeping performance initiatives, such as the [Integrated Peacekeeping Performance and Accountability Framework](#) and the [Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System](#), as well as United Nations Police specific processes and initiatives. Participants agreed on the importance of:
  - Advancing the [Strategic Guidance Framework for International Policing](#) and further operationalizing the [United Nations Police Training Architecture Programme](#);
  - Maintaining Secretariat support for Member States' pre-deployment readiness and sustaining United Nations Police succession planning initiatives by supporting required training and certification processes; and
  - Nurturing future generations of United Nations Police leadership by continuing to support annual United Nations Police Commanders courses for Heads and Deputy Heads of United Nations Police components, the United Nations Senior Police Leadership Roster, as well as by growing and further supporting the 170-strong United Nations Police Women Command Cadre, along with providing women police officers opportunities to grow at the national level.
13. United Nations Police performance is the joint responsibility of the United Nations Secretariat; Member States that host or otherwise support United Nations Police; regional, sub-regional and professional policing organizations; and United Nations Police personnel comprising FPUs, individual police officers (IPOs), SPTs and civilian police experts. With this in mind, participants agreed on the need for vetted, well prepared, equipped, technologically proficient and trained United Nations Police personnel, including:
  - IPOs with expertise in countering organized crime, including environmental crime and

- terrorism; risk analysis; strategic and operational planning; forensics; crime analysis; audit inspection; legal support; community-oriented policing; project management; sexual and gender-based violence; gender mainstreaming; and improvised explosive device risk awareness and mitigation;
- FPU, particularly Francophone and mixed gender units available for rapid deployment and equipped with state-of-the-art capabilities, including SWAT, rapid reaction, canine and riverine elements;
  - SPTs in community-oriented policing, public order management, border policing, protection of civilians and forensics; and
  - Social media monitoring and analysis tools for use as early warning mechanisms; unmanned aerial vehicles to support policing activities in mission settings characterized by vast terrains and underdeveloped, irregular road networks; aerostat and live high-resolution video feed capabilities; and personnel who are proficient in data analytics and management, cybercrime investigations and cyber security.
14. As part of their joint responsibility, participants underscored that police contributing countries must assume full responsibility for holding their personnel accountable for any form of misconduct, particularly sexual exploitation and abuse, including by way of criminal investigations and prosecutions.

#### **THE WAY FORWARD**

15. Participants appreciated the value of UNCOPS as a forum embodying multilateralism in action, that advances the values enshrined in the United Nations Charter. They welcomed the offer of the United Arab Emirates to provide financial support for the organization of the fourth UNCOPS at United Nations Headquarters in New York in 2024 and expressed their support for the forthcoming Peacekeeping Ministerial in Ghana in 2023.