

**Security Council Open Debate on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations**  
**Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010, Security Council Chamber (GA-TSC-01)**

*Statement by Ambassador Momen, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations*

I thank you, Mr. President, and the other members of the Security Council for organizing this meeting. I also especially thank Under-Secretary-General Alain Le Roy and the force commanders who are participating in this meeting.

As we have mentioned elsewhere, United Nations peacekeeping operations are a unique flagship activity of the Organization that entail risking human lives for the cause of international peace and security. I take my hat off to those who have made the supreme sacrifice to maintain peace and stability in the world.

The success of peacekeeping in recent years has led to high expectations and to a surge in demand. An assessment of future conflict trends suggests that the need for peacekeeping will increase, not decrease, and that the nature of peacekeeping will be multidimensional and more complex, not simple. Historical experience in conflict zones and current political dynamics substantiate the notion that upcoming demand will fall on the shoulders of United Nations peacekeeping. The onus is therefore on us to lead the process through effective cooperation, with clearly stipulated mandates backed by sufficient resources and specific policy and implementation guidelines. This warrants effectively forging an inclusive partnership among the Security Council, the Secretariat and troop- and police-contributing countries, as well as ensuring the capability of peacekeepers to achieve their mandated objectives.

The success of a peacekeeping mission largely depends on the political support it receives and on the adequate and timely provision of financial, logistical and human resources. In that regard, we reiterate the importance of closer and more active involvement with troop- and police-contributing countries when deciding on new peacekeeping missions or extending or amending the mandates of current missions. In that regard, we would like to emphasize the following specific measures. There must be broader political partnership between the United Nations and host Governments.

There must be effective consultation among the Security Council, the Secretariat and troop and police-contributing countries. The views of troop contributing countries must be reflected in deciding mission start-ups and making any changes in the mandate of existing missions. Initial mandates must be crafted carefully while giving a full picture to potential TCCs. Specific timelines must be stipulated, in consultation with TCCs, in the course of finalizing memorandums of understanding. Any change in operations must accord with the views of those working in the field. And we must ensure fair representation for TCCs in the Secretariat's decisionmaking process and in the process of implementation.

At the operational level, a partnership must be forged with all relevant stakeholders. In our view, the following specific actions are imperative in that regard. There must be sufficient political partnership between the United Nations and host authorities. There must be necessary coordination with the host Government or authority to allow peacekeepers to operate. General and specific coordination needs to be ensured among all parties, including regional organizations. And concerted efforts need to be made by United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the Bretton Woods institutions working in the field.

We also believe that the following elements must be reflected in the process of start-up, operation and expansion for successful peacekeeping operations: First, mandates must be clear, specific and well defined. Secondly, mandates must be supported by sufficient resources, both financial and human. Thirdly, necessary political support must be ensured. Fourthly, sufficient measures must be taken to ensure the safety and security of the peacekeepers. Fifthly, the United Nations must take the necessary measures to ensure sufficient training in all areas of activities included in the mandate.

I would like to reiterate Bangladesh's principled position that **gender sensitivity** and the involvement of **women** in peacekeeping operations, in line **with resolution 1325 (2000) and the subsequent follow-up resolutions**, should be adhered to. We are pleased that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support are

working together in this context and have recently launched **gender guidelines in United Nations military peacekeeping**.

Bangladesh, for its part, has played a cardinal role in the maintenance of international peace and security. Since 1988, Bangladesh has been involved in 36 United Nations peacekeeping operations, with approximately 90,000 personnel. Today, Bangladesh is ranked first in the field. We take pride in our modest contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security. Through the years, nearly 100 of our valiant peacekeepers have laid down their lives for the cause of United Nations-sponsored peacekeeping missions. We reiterate our commitment to continuing to work with the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security.