FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING
Learning outcomes

- Know the basic principles of UN peacekeeping.
- Explain what is meant by the credibility & legitimacy of a UN peacekeeping mission and how peacekeeping personnel can support that in practice.
- Understand the necessary qualities in UN peacekeeping personnel.
Module Outline

- Principles
- Other success factors
- Essential qualities of a peacekeeper
- Questions & answers
- Test ?
FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF UN PEACEKEEPING

- Consent
- Impartiality
- Non-use of force except in self defence and defence of the mandate
Principle # 1: Consent

- All UN peacekeeping operations require consent of the main parties to the conflict.

- Without the consent for the mandate, the operation is peace enforcement.

- The UN PKO’s role is to move the peace process forward while maintaining consent of all the parties to the conflict.
Principle # 2: Impartiality

- UN peacekeeping operations must implement their mandate without favour or prejudice to any of the parties to the conflict (like a good referee)

- A peacekeeping operation cannot condone actions by parties if they violate the norms and principles the UN PKO upholds

- Reasons for action must be clearly communicated to all
Principle # 3: Non-use of force except in self defence & defence of mandate

- Use of force permitted in self defence & defence of mandate

- SC may authorize a mission “to use all necessary means” to defend the mandate

- Use of force permitted as a measure of last resort

- Minimum use of force

- The RoE or DuF clarify level of force
Other Success Factors

- Credibility
- Legitimacy
- Promotion of national and local ownership
Credibility

- A precise and achievable mandate with the resources to match
- Effective, rapid deployment
- A confident, capable and unified posture of the mission
- Management of expectations
The perceived legitimacy of a United Nations peacekeeping operation is directly related to the quality and conduct of its military, police and civilian personnel.
Promotion of National and Local Ownership

- Foster trust and cooperation of local and national actors
- Reinforce the perceived legitimacy of the mission
- Ensure the sustainability of the peace building process
- Should include all parts of society
- All opinion need to be heard and understood
The Essential Qualities of a Peacekeepers

- Military
- Police
- Civilian

# All play critical role in representing PKO
UN Peacekeeping Personnel

- Meet the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity
- Impartial
- Mindful of the need to prioritize peaceful solutions
- Aware of local history, customs and culture
UN Peacekeeping Personnel

- Able to analyze and report on their operating environment
- Use good judgment and are able to communicate the reason for their actions
- Able to manage local expectations and explain the mission mandate
- Promote national and local ownership while remaining inclusive and impartial
Questions?
TEST (answer in 15 minutes)

1. What are the three fundamental principles of UN Peacekeeping?
2. Please explain what is meant by the principle of “Consent”.
3. Please explain what is meant by the principle of “Impartiality”.
4. Under what circumstances is the use of force permitted in a peacekeeping mission?
5. What are some of the essential qualities of UN peacekeeping personnel?