



UN Peace Operations Reform

And the Secretary-General's Reviews of the UN System

Tuesday, June 27, 2017, 10:00–17:00

International Peace Institute
777 UN Plaza, 12th floor
(East 44th Street and 1st Avenue), New York

The objectives of this seminar are to discuss and analyze the state of UN Peace Operations reform two years after the release of the report of the High-Level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations (HIPPO) in June 2015, and in light of review processes launched by Secretary-General António Guterres on the restructuring of the UN's peace and security architecture and on management.

A number of actions have already been taken by Member States and former Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon following the release of the HIPPO Report, as described in the "Scorecard" produced by IPI at the end of 2017.¹ Notably, the Security Council was briefed by the Secretary-General on 20 November 2015 on his action plan for taking forward the recommendations found in the HIPPO report, and took note of the recommendations of the two reports in a Presidential Statement (PRST).² Further, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations "C34" has been driving forward the HIPPO agenda by considering a number of the recommendations in both his 2016 and 2017 sessions.

However, Secretary-General Ban left some of the most important issues raised by the HIPPO to his successor, particularly in the area of finances and restructuring. Secretary-General Guterres has since announced nine priority areas for reforms largely based on HIPPO recommendations, including peace and security architecture reform; efficiency and accountability; prioritized, sequenced and flexible mandates; gender; coordinated system-wide planning, control and leadership; use of modern technology; communication; partnerships with regional and sub-regional organizations and particularly the African Union; and solid and predictable funding to support such partnerships.³

During the April 6, 2017 Security Council Thematic Debate entitled "Peacekeeping Operations Review", organized under US presidency, a majority of member states called for the need for implementation of the HIPPO recommendations and commended SG Guterres for taking steps in that direction. Ethiopia also announced its intention of host a high-level open debate, at the level of heads of State, during its Council presidency in September 2017, with a view to facilitating serious discussion on implementing HIPPO recommendations and chart the best way forward.

This seminar will conclude the three-year project "New Issues Observatory" supported by the French Ministry of Defense's Department for International Relations and Strategy (DGRIS) consisting of a series of research papers and roundtables examining "new" issues in peace operations available at <http://www.providingforpeacekeeping.org/new-issues-observatory/>. It is organized in partnership with the informal "friends of HIPPO" group of permanent representatives co-chaired by Ethiopia, Norway, and the Republic of Korea. This event will be held under the Chatham House Rule of non-attribution, and will bring together representatives of member states, of the UN Secretariat, and experts.

¹ The State of UN Peace Operations Reform: An Implementation Scorecard, IPI, November 2017, available at <https://www.ipinst.org/2016/11/un-peace-ops-implementation-scorecard>

² S/PRST/2015/22, available at http://www.futurepeaceops.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/s.prst_2015.22.pdf

³ <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2017-04-06/secretary-generals-remarks-security-council-thematic-debate-entitled>

Agenda

10:00-10:15 Welcome Remarks

Mr. Arthur Boutellis, *Director, Brian Urquhart Center for Peace Operations, International Peace Institute*

Ms. Thymiane Rizzardo, *Directorate general for International Relations and Strategy (DGRIS), French Ministry of Defense*

10:15-10:30 Opening Remarks

Mr. Atul Khare, *Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, United Nations*

10:30-12:30 Session 1: State of reform two years after the release of the report of the High-Level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations (HIPPO)

What recommendations have been taken up by the UN Secretariat and Member States to date? What has been the impact on the implementation of peace operations mandate on the ground so far? What issues have garnered less attention, what are the bottlenecks and why? How can member states best support the priorities of Secretary General Guterres for Peace Operations Reform? Are there some HIPPO recommendations not included in these priorities? Will the recently signed Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhancing Partnership on Peace and Security facilitate a more effective cooperation to respond to modern challenges of peace operations? What should the Ethiopia September 2017 high-level open debate on implementing HIPPO recommendations seek to achieve?

Chair: **H.E. Mr. Tekeda Alemu**, *Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations TBC*

Speakers: **Mr. Jack Christofides**, *Director of Policy, Evaluation & Training, United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations*

Ms. Karin Landgren, *Former Special Representative of the Secretary General for UNMIL (Liberia), BNUB (Burundi) and UNMIN (Nepal)*

Mr. Ian Martin, *Executive Director of Security Council Report and former member of the HIPPO*

12:30-13:30 Lunch break

13:30-15:00 Session 2: Implications of a UN Peace & Security Architecture Restructuring for Peace Operations Reform

How can a restructuration of the UN Peace & Security Architecture help realize the four shifts called for by the HIPPO? What options and proposals have been considered by the Secretary-General's Internal Review Team (IRT) to make peace operations better fit for purpose? How can such a restructuring lead to more political, flexible and tailored responses to changing needs on the ground? How can it contribute to making peace operations more field-focused and people-

centered? What immediate changes can the Secretary-General undertake without reference to member states?

Chair: **H.E. Mr. Geir O. Pedersen**, *Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations*

Speakers: **Mr. Fabrizio Hochschild**, *Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination, Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)*

Mr. Tamrat Samuel, *Head of the Internal Review Team on the Secretariat's Peace and Security Architecture, Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)*

Mr. Peter de Clercq, *Deputy Special Representative for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSAM)*

Dr. Alexandra Novosseloff, *Center on International Cooperation, NYU*

15:00-15:15 **Coffee Break**

15:15-16:45 **Session 3: How can Peace Operations Work for Sustaining Peace?**

How can peace operations be designed and implemented to help build self-sustaining peace rather than just prevent relapse into conflict? What is the role of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and the UN system in support of UN peace operation efforts to sustain peace? What changes are needed to address the obstacles to implementing the sustaining peace approach?

Chair: **H.E. Mr. Cho Tae-yul**, *Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations*

Speakers: **H.E. Mr. Gert Rosenthal**, *former Chair of the Advisory Group of Experts on the 2015 Review of the United Nations*

H.E. Ms. Gillian Bird, *Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations*

Ms. Michele Griffin, *Executive Office of the Secretary-General*

Ms. Diane Corner, *Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)*

Dr. Youssef Mahmoud, *Senior Advisor, International Peace Institute, and former member of the HIPPO*

16:45-17:00 **Wrap-up Session and Closing Remarks**

H.E. Mr. François Delattre, *Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations*