



Reviews & Reform: A High-Level Dialogue on United Nations Peace Operations

CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY

On September 21, 2017, the governments of Finland, Indonesia, Rwanda, and Uruguay, and the International Peace Institute co-organized the fifth annual ministerial dinner on UN peace operations on the sidelines of the annual UN General Assembly debate.

The dinner was attended by foreign ministers and high-level delegates from capitals representing forty member states. The United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and former members of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) were also in attendance.

The dinner afforded participants the opportunity to engage in a candid discussion of the most pressing issues confronting contemporary UN peace operations, to reflect on the adoption of Security Council Resolution 2378, and to exchange on what member states can do to carry forward the peace operations and other broader reform agendas proposed by UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

The ensuing discussion stressed the importance of political strategies guiding peace operations, the need to increase the participation of women in peacekeeping and in peace processes, the need to further institutionalize triangular consultations with troop-contributing countries before and during the mandating process, and the importance of regional partnerships (especially with the African Union). Many participants also spoke of the importance of training, performance, and accountability.

In conclusion, participants emphasized the need for a change in mindset to accompany the implementation of the reforms proposed by the Secretary-General and also for these reforms to ultimately translate into better and more effective peacekeeping on the ground.

In this connection, the co-chairs welcomed the “UN Peace Operations Reform Scorecard 2017” by IPI (published as part of the report, [“Road to a Better UN? Peace Operations and the Reform Agenda”](#)), as a summary of progress achieved in 2017 in key strategic areas and remaining challenges that would benefit from continued attention by the Secretary-General and member states moving forward.