

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Let me begin by expressing thanks for our German partners for hosting this year's UN Peacekeeping Ministerial. This event is crucial for bolstering common efforts regarding evolution and effectiveness of peacekeeping.

Since the first deployment of the Polish blue helmets in Egypt over 50 years ago, we remain engaged in support of global peace and security. There is no doubt that UN peacekeeping is an indispensable tool for sustaining peace, limiting armed conflicts and protection of innocent civilians.

New challenges, geopolitical tensions and escalation of conflicts in various parts of the world pose significant threats for safety and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations and their personnel. Rapid changes of the security environment require not only our continuous contribution but also adaptation. Here we reiterate our strong support for ongoing reforms in line with priorities outlined in initiatives A4P and A4P+ and the New Agenda for Peace.

We strongly believe that the adaptability and the effectiveness of peacekeeping mission relies on targeted and flexible mandates that designate achievable goals and include well defined exit strategies. Against this background there is a need to underline crucial role of the Security Council and its responsibility for the shape and scope of mandates.

Recent experiences clearly show that peacekeeping operations act in highly complex environment with numerous, often unfriendly or openly hostile actors. That is why we underline the need to provide political support, secure the broadest possible ownership and ensure maximum safety of personnel. There can be no place for impunity of individuals, organisations or states that stand behind attacks on blue helmets.

In order to streamline effectiveness of peacekeeping, better and closer cooperation with local and regional actors is key. UN should continue its cooperation with international organisations such as the EU, the African Union and NATO, that may provide indispensable support, knowledge and capabilities.

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

Despite significant deterioration of the security situation in Europe, Poland declares its readiness to continue engagement of its military contingent and further support of the UNIFIL, with more than 200 soldiers deployed. We also contribute military observers to MINURSO, UNMIK, UNMISS, UNTSO missions.

Given our experience from UNIFIL, MINURCAT, UNDOF, and elsewhere, we firmly believe that only well-tailored, specialized training system may ensure successful operation as well as right level of protection for both peacekeepers and civilians.

Therefore, we reiterate our readiness to support peacekeeping efforts through providing the United Nations with Military Observers Course conducted by Military Training Centre for Foreign Operations in Kielce, Poland.

Expressing support for Women Peace and Security agenda, which remain core issue regarding transformation of the peacekeeping, Poland declares its continuous effort to encourage women to join armed forces as well as to ensure the appropriate women ratio in Polish contribution to the UN peacekeeping efforts.

As we recognize the intertwined nature of the humanitarian, development and peace nexus, we continue to seek synergies, as appropriate. We put particular emphasis on our work within the Peacebuilding Commission, strengthening its links with the Security Council and Economic and Social Council.

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies

Despite both new and well-known challenges for multilateral efforts for global peace and security, Poland confirms its engagement and support of the UN Peacekeeping. As a country that strongly believes in values enshrined in the United Nations Charter, we see it as our utmost duty.

Thank you very much.