



**PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING ON AGENDA ITEM 51:  
'COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF  
PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL ASPECTS'**

**STATEMENT BY**

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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*Please check against delivery*

Thank you, Chair.

Jamaica aligns with the statement delivered by Morocco on behalf of the Non-aligned Movement. Jamaica also thanks the briefers for their comprehensive and useful updates. We are, unfortunately, witnessing an increase in the number of conflicts within and among states. In such an environment, the critical role played by peacekeepers under the UN flag cannot be over-emphasised.

Jamaica, therefore, salutes our brave women and men who serve as UN peacekeepers in very difficult and volatile environments. We recognise the huge challenges they volunteer to confront and the sacrifice they make in pursuit of peace, stability, security and humanitarianism. We convey our deepest condolences to the families of peacekeepers who have lost loved ones. We also extend our sympathies to those injured during peacekeeping operations and pray for their speedy recovery.

Jamaica condemns, in the strongest term, any attack on peacekeepers and UN facilities. We maintain the view that attacks must be thoroughly and expeditiously investigated, and perpetrators held to account. As UN members, we have a duty to protect UN peacekeeping officers and facilitate their operations. Given the significant role that UN peace-keeping plays in the pursuit of international peace and security, it is of utmost importance that adequate resources are allocated to UN peace-keeping missions to ensure that peace-keeping operations achieve their mandate.

We acknowledge the role of the UN Secretariat in facilitating training, including in crises response, as well as capacity-building for peace-keeping officers before and after deployment to host countries. We believe that such activities should continue to be prioritised. We also believe that priority should also be given to rescue operations, evacuation arrangements in certain situations and greater availability of medical facilities for peace-keepers.

Chair,

UN peace-keeping operations cannot be successful in host countries unless civilians, especially women and girls, are protected and their rights respected in accordance with international law, including international humanitarian law. All efforts must be made to ensure there is no violation of civilian rights during peacekeeping operations. There have been past reports of sexual and other misconduct during UN peacekeeping operations. Such unfortunate incidents can inflict irreparable reputational damage to the UN and diminish its crucial role in facilitating solutions in conflict situations. The use of force by peace-keeping officials is only permissible in cases of self-defence. Jamaica, therefore, calls on police and troops contributing countries to continue to establish high professional standards for their nationals who are participating in UN peacekeeping missions.

Chair

Continuous strengthening and realignment of the peace-keeping machinery to adapt to unique situations and realities are also essential for the success of peace-keeping operations. The UN General Assembly, UN Security Council and the C-34 are avenues to achieve this objective. The Pact of the Future provides a comprehensive framework within which such objectives can be successfully pursued. The Pact also assists in framing our approaches to the future of peacekeeping. In this regard, Jamaica supports the A4P Plus initiative, given, among other things, the importance of measuring and improving the performance of uniformed personnel and accountability in peacekeeping operations. We also support the Secretary General's Agenda for Peace.

There is also a need to deepen partnership with regional and sub-regional institutions in peacekeeping operations, in addition to working closely with other stakeholders to fulfil peacekeeping mandates. In these processes, the host countries must own and lead in setting and pursuing objectives for peace-keeping missions. Peace-keeping operations should never be viewed as an avenue for interference in the domestic affairs of countries.

Messaging is also essential in the operations of peace-keepers. Many peace-keeping missions are affected by misinformation on social media and other platforms. Misinformation can even jeopardize the safety and effectiveness of peacekeepers. Appropriate strategies must therefore be put in place to address misinformation, disinformation and hate speech against peacekeepers. We also support the use of technologies to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of peacekeeping operations.

Increasing women's participation and representation in all dimensions of UN peacekeeping, including in leadership is critical to ensure the success of peacekeeping operations. This is in line with resolution 2242 of 2015 by the UN Security Council, building on resolution 1325. We also recognize resolution 2538 of 2000, which is the first standalone resolution on women in peacekeeping operations. We continue to be pleased with the progress to mainstream gender perspectives throughout all the offices of the Department of Peace Operations (DPO). Youth participation in peacekeeping is also critical to finding durable solutions. Hence UN Security Council Resolution 2250 has a critical role to play. Additionally, peace keeping operations should pay more attention to building institutional capacity within host states, under the leadership of the governments of those countries. Such approach fosters achievement of durable solutions and enhances faster transition to post-conflict governance.

In closing, Chair, Jamaica reaffirms its unwavering support for the UN peace keeping activities. We extend our appreciation to peace keeping officers for their dedication to service and the sacrifice they made on behalf of humanity.

I thank you