

To be delivered on Wed 14 May

At 9.30 am



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THE 2025 UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING MINISTERIAL PLENARY
PLEDGING SESSION

REMARKS BY HON. SOIPAN TUYA EGH,

CABINET SECRETARY FOR DEFENCE

13 – 14 MAY 2025

BERLIN, GERMANY

Thank you, Chair,

Excellencies, Fellow Ministers

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya, I express our sincere appreciation to the Government and people of the Federal Republic of Germany for the warm hospitality and for hosting this important Conference. Germany's leadership and contribution to the UN peacekeeping budget, reaffirms its strong commitment to multilateralism and global peace and security. I equally extend gratitude to the UN Secretary General and all partners for the diligent efforts in convening us here today.

Excellencies,

Peacekeeping remains the most visible tool available to the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security. However, over time, the peacekeeping environment has continued to shift, posing new challenges to peacekeepers. The direct attack on peacekeepers and emerging threats such as terrorism, criminal gangs, transnational organized crimes as well as hybrid threats continue to challenge the traditional methods of peacekeeping.

Consequently, a comprehensive review of UN peace operations to address such new challenges is inevitably urgent. As we face evolving global security threats and increasingly complex operational environments, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that UN peace operations remain responsive, fit for purpose; credible, and adaptable to current and future realities.

This will require a review of the basic principles of peacekeeping, that have guided the enterprise since inception, and innovative solutions that transcend partnerships. The Multinational Security Support Mission (MSS) in Haiti, which Kenya is honoured to lead, exemplifies an emerging model of tailored, agile, and regionally supported peace operations. We are proud to contribute to this groundbreaking initiative. However, to ensure its long-term success, we appeal to the international community for greater collaboration, to address the operational needs of the MSS.

Excellencies,

Kenya recognizes that capacity building is key to operational excellence. Through the IPSTC, we continue to work with the UN as well as regional and international partners to deliver comprehensive training in Peace Support Operations. Kenya is host to the Triangular Partnership Project, which is celebrating its 10th Anniversary in June this year. We thank the Government of Japan and other partners for supporting the project. The center recently opened a Counter-Improvised Explosive Device wing to enhance training in this new threat. We equally thank the Government of Germany for supporting the construction of the facility.

Further, Kenya continues to collaborate with the European Union to enhance its capacity for Peace Support Operations. In this respect, we acknowledge the European Union for its substantial in-kind support towards capability enhancement.

To reaffirm our strong commitment to UN peace operations, Kenya undertakes to elevate its existing pledges within the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness

System (PCRS). Moreover, I am pleased to announce the following additional pledges:

- A Heavy Transport Company.
- An Armed Helicopter Unit.
- Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Units, including Uncrewed Aerial Systems (UAS).
- Deployment of one Mobile Training Team to support the UN Mine Action Service IED Threat Mitigation Advisory Team from September 2025.
- Counter-IED and Weapons and Ammunition Management training teams for TCCs and Member States.
- Hosting or providing trainers for Weapons and Ammunition Management training in the UN Manual on Ammunition Management.
- Continued support through the Triangular Partnership Programme for Counter-IED and EOD capacity building.

As I conclude, I wish to reiterate that the effectiveness of peacekeeping is heavily dependent on the attitude and the prowess of the peacekeepers as well as the quality of the equipment and support accorded to them. Let us all remain committed to supporting peacekeepers with the necessary tools to make them responsive to the current and future security challenges.

I thank you. Asante sana.