

Statement by

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Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran before the United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial 2025

(Berlin, 13-14 May 2025)

In the Name of God, the most Compassionate, the most Merciful.

Honorable Under-Secretary-General, Excellencies, Ministers, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to pay tribute to our brothers and sisters who have served under the flag of the United Nations and express our heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have lost their lives in defending the honor of the UN.

Madam/Mr. Chair / President

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since the United Nations was founded in 1945, its central mission, as defined all those years ago, has remained the maintenance of international peace and security. Its peacekeeping operations, despite the challenges they have faced, have remained an invaluable tool for carrying out this mission. While reaffirming this vital role, we seriously consider that the deployment of UN peacekeepers, the extension of their mandates and the implementation of their responsibilities should be fully consistent with the UN Charter's principles and purposes.

In my delegation's view, peacekeeping operations, despite their challenges, remain a vital tool for the promotion of international peace and security. In this regard, my delegation underlines the unique and crucial role of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) as the only United Nations forum mandated by the General Assembly.

Distinguished Colleagues,

While recognizing the need for UN peacekeeping operations to keep pace with the ever-changing and complex nature of peace and security, my delegation believes that it is of the utmost importance to adhere to the purposes and principles of peacekeeping, namely the consent of the parties, impartiality, and the non-use of force except in self-defense and in defense of the mandate. We strongly believe that the respect for principles of sovereign equality, political independence, territorial integrity of all States and non-interference in matters that are essentially within their domestic jurisdiction should also be upheld in this regard.

Madam/Mr. Chair / President

In a meeting with the UN Secretary-General H.E. Mr. António Guterres on the sidelines of the 78th UN General Assembly in New York on September 19, 2023, the former Iranian president expressed Iran's readiness to participate in the UN's efforts to promote peace and security in the world. I would like to reiterate Iran's strong commitment and support for UN peacekeeping operations as the flagship activity of the United Nations. In this regard, my Government is ready to increase its contribution to the peacekeeping operations logistically and militarily by sending troops, military observers, police and civilian peacekeepers.

Madam/Mr. Chair / President

Fellow participants

Iran has contributed troops and military observers to 7 UN peacekeeping missions around the world. More than 60 years ago, the first Iranian peacekeepers were deployed to the United Nations Operation in the Congo. Over 7 decades, Iran has contributed more than 984 troops to UN peacekeeping missions as a troop-contributing nation. More than 4 Iranian peacekeepers have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in UN peacekeeping missions. We will continue to maintain our strong commitment to UN peacekeeping.

Excellencies,

Following the pledging guide, I am pleased to share with you, Excellencies, Iran's new pledges for the 2025 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial in Berlin.

We have pledged to send an infantry battalion- to UN peacekeeping operations. This unit includes three mechanized companies and consists of 586 soldiers. The personnel of the pledged unit have completed their basic training according to the world training criteria, prior to their deployment. This unit is well trained and well-prepared to assume duties in a new mission or any existing mission in the global quest for peace and can be dispatched on short notice by the UN Secretariat.

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran respectfully expresses the reservation that UNIFIL, UNDOF and UNTSO are excluded from the preferred list of missions for the deployment of the infantry battalion.

Furthermore, recognizing the UN's requirement for capacity building and within the framework of the "Light Coordination Mechanism", my delegation would like to announce that the Islamic Republic of Iran is also ready to host a comprehensive peacekeeping training course in Tehran in 2025, in cooperation with the relevant department of the United Nations.

The proposed training course would be in accordance with the UN training-related standards and guidelines materials for the planning, design, implementation and monitoring of peacekeeping training. My country will extend its full support to the participants of the training course by providing domestic transportation to and from the airport, accommodation, meals, and conference facilities.

This pledge will be valid until February 2026 and includes a three-week pre-deployment training course for military observers, staff officers, military commanders, and other key personnel of a UN peacekeeping infantry battalion, tentatively scheduled for October or November 2025.

These pledges demonstrate Iran's unwavering commitment to UN peacekeeping.

Madam/Mr. Chair / President

Fellow participants

My delegation reiterates that the principle of equitable geographical representation should be fully respected in the staffing of UN peacekeeping missions at all levels.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to once again reiterate our strong commitment and support for UN peacekeeping operations as the flagship activity of the United Nations. In this regard, my Government stands ready to increase its contribution to the peacekeeping operations logistically and militarily through the deployment of troops, military observers, police and civilians. Iran hereby reaffirms its longstanding support for UN peacekeeping operations in the years to come! Iran hereby reaffirms its longstanding support for UN peacekeeping operations in the years to come!

I thank you, Madam/Mr. Chairman/President