Police: Resumption of Responsibility

When will the PNTL be able to resume responsibility?

- Each PNTL district unit must be able to adequately meet all security threats and needs in their district
- 80% of all PNTL officers in a district must have their final certification
- Each district PNTL unit must have adequate logistical support. This may include transport and communication equipment
- Each district PNTL unit must be stable and able to perform policing duties with the confidence of the community.

Why will the PNTL resume responsibility gradually and not all at once?

The Government and UNMIT have agreed that each unit and district must meet certain criteria before they resume responsibility. A main part of the criteria is that at least 80% of the officers in each district must be fully certified.

Because the certification process is still ongoing, and because not all units will be ready at the same time, it is not possible for all PNTL district units to resume responsibility at once. Because of this, each unit and each district will resume responsibility gradually.

How long will it take for a district PNTL unit to resume responsibility?

There is no time limit. It depends on the readiness of PNTL. The resumption of responsibility depends on each district PNTL unit being fully prepared to resume policing responsibility.

How long will it take for all districts to resume responsibility?

This will depend on PNTL’s readiness in each and every district.
Will the United Nations Police remain in the districts?
Yes. The UNPOLs will remain in all districts. There will be no decrease in the number of UNPOL.

What will the role of the UN Police be once the PNTL have resumed responsibility?
The UN Police will continue to support the PNTL by advising, providing operational support and monitoring the progress of PNTL officers.
If required, the UN Police can also re-assume interim law enforcement.

What is the difference between this resumption of responsibility and the handover to the PNTL in 2003-2005?
The main difference is that the UN Police will not withdraw from the districts, but remain to provide support to the PNTL. The UN Police will also assess the professionalism of the PNTL as a policing institution and make sure that they meet human rights standards.