

Lesson 1.1



UN Peacekeeping – Strategic Level

Aim, Relevance and Learning Outcomes

Aim

To introduce essential information about the United Nations (UN) and UN Peacekeeping.

Relevance

You are joining the UN as a peacekeeper, to **represent the UN** in the country to which you are being deployed. As a UN peacekeeper, **your tasks reflect important and complex decisions** made at UN Headquarters in New York (UNHQ). You need to understand how these decisions about your role as a UN peacekeeper are made and what guides them.

Lesson 1.1 UN Peacekeeping – Strategic Level provides a snapshot of both the UN and the parts of the UN that are active in peacekeeping. It explains the UN's **strategic level of decision-making** and its connection to peacekeeping. The strategic level is the highest level of decision-making and is found in the several of the main organs of the UN. The strategic level is responsible for high-level political decision-making and management in UN Peacekeeping.

Slide 1



1.1 UN Peacekeeping – Strategic Level 

Aim

- To introduce essential information about the United Nations (UN) and UN Peacekeeping

Relevance

- As a UN peacekeeper, you represent the UN where you are being deployed
- Your tasks reflect important and complex decisions made at UNHQ and you need to understand how those decisions are made and what guides them

UN CPTM 2025 Slide 1

Learning Outcomes

Learners will be able to:

1. Describe the impacts of violent conflict on populations.
2. List the four main purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and explain its role as a cornerstone of international law.
3. Explain the importance of the UN principles of impartiality and universality.
4. Explain the UN's basic structure, including the primary organs involved in peacekeeping and the Secretariat's most relevant departments.

Slide 2



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the impacts of violent conflict on populations.
2. List the four main purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and explain its role as a cornerstone of international laws.
3. Explain the importance of the UN principles of impartiality and universality.
4. Explain the UN's basic structure, including the primary organs involved in peacekeeping and the Secretariat's most relevant departments.

UN CPTM 2025

Slide 2

Lesson at a Glance



Minimum lesson duration: 45 minutes (including *Learning Activity 1.1.1*).

The Lesson	Pages	Slides
Required Learning Activity 1.1.1: UN Video - UN Peacekeeping	4	4
An Introduction to the United Nations	4-7	-
The Charter of the United Nations	7-8	5
UN Principal Organs Involved in Peacekeeping	8-15	8-11
Departments of the Secretariat Active in Peacekeeping	15-19	12-15
Lesson Closing	20	16
Handout – Summary of Key Messages	21-22	-

Optional Learning Activities	
Optional Learning Activity 1.1.2: Consequences of Violent Conflict	<i>See 1.1 Learning Support</i>
Optional Learning Activity 1.1.3: UN Peacekeeping at the Strategic Level	
Optional Learning Activity 1.1.4: Key Definitions and Concepts	



Trainer Tips: See *1.1 Learning Support* for tips on starting the lesson, required learning activity instructions, optional learning activities and learning evaluation.

The Lesson

Required Learning Activity 1.1.1

Slide 3



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level

Required Learning Activity 1.1.1: UN Video – UN Peacekeeping

Purpose: To introduce the UN and UN peacekeeping

Time: 10 minutes

UN CPTM 2025Slide 3

UN Video – UN Peacekeeping	
Method:	UN video (Slide 4) and group discussion
Purpose:	To introduce the UN and UN Peacekeeping
Time:	10 minutes
<i>See 1.1 Learning Support for instructions</i>	

An Introduction to the United Nations

Violent conflict can occur between countries (inter-State conflict) or within a country (intra-State conflict).



Key Message 1: Violent conflict is devastating. One of peacekeeping’s roles is to preserve peace when violent conflict has ended. The UN is the global organization that leads international peacekeeping initiatives.



Trainer Tips: Invite participants to identify some negative impacts of conflicts. Note the key words they use and write them on a flipchart sheet. Acknowledge different levels and types of impacts. As suggestions stop coming, add to the full picture using the list below.

Violent conflict has negative impacts that include:

- Casualties and loss of human life, including civilians as indirect and direct targets
- Damage to and destruction of property, land and buildings
- Human suffering and displacement of people
- Humanitarian crises, including lack of food, shelter and medical care
- Collapse or decline of State institutions and services, breakdown of law and public order, and a political and security vacuum
- Disruption of ordinary life and the social fabric of communities
- Violent, tense and insecure daily realities
- Human rights violations, including trafficking and sexual violence
- Illegal exploitation and trade of natural resources such as minerals
- Serious long-term security, political and socioeconomic issues.

Violent conflict affects the present generation and the generations to come. The nature of violent conflicts has changed over time and so have their impacts. Some modern threats were almost unimaginable when the UN was established in 1945.



Examples

- Misinformation and disinformation are used to undermine mission capacity to achieve its mandate
- Conflict and hostilities have extended into cyberspace
- Conflict in outer space has to be prevented.

Despite facing hard challenges in some of the toughest places on earth, UN Peacekeeping has had remarkable successes. In 1988, the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the UN Peacekeeping Forces in recognition of their accomplishments. In 2022, evidence from 16 peer-reviewed studies showed that peacekeepers – or blue helmets, as they have come to be known – significantly reduce civilian casualties, shorten conflicts, and help make peace agreements stick, as well as reduce the likelihood of recurring civil war.

The use of soldiers to keep the peace instead of fighting wars is a recent innovation in world history; millions of lives have been saved since the creation of peacekeeping in 1948. The majority of UN Peacekeeping missions have succeeded in their primary goal, which was ultimately to help stabilize societies and end wars.

Successful UN Peacekeeping operations so far have included the following:

- Namibia, UNTAG 1989–1990
- Cambodia, UNAMIC 1992–1993
- Mozambique, ONUMOZ 1992–1994
- El Salvador, ONUSAL 1991–1995
- Guatemala, MINUGUA 1997–1997
- Eastern Slavonia/Croatia, UNTAES 1996–1998
- Timor-Leste, UNTAET 1999–2002
- Sierra Leone, UNAMSIL 1999–2005
- Burundi, ONUB 2004–2006
- Timor-Leste, 2006–2012
- Côte d’Ivoire, UNOCI 2004–2017
- Liberia, UNMIL 2003–2018

Not every operation has been successful, however, and UN Peacekeeping has also experienced failures where it was not possible to achieve the mission mandate.



Key Message 2: The UN is an **impartial** and **universal** organization of 193 countries, called Member States. One reason for creating the UN was to save later generations from directly experiencing violent conflict. **Impartiality** and **universality** are more important in present-day peacekeeping than ever before.

Those who founded the UN in 1945 after the Second World War had lived through two terrible global wars and had identified the need for a “workshop for peace”. The UN brings together or **unites** many different **nations** or States. UN members are made up of individual countries, called **Member States**. Decisions about peacekeeping are made by the Member States, not by the UN as an independent organization.



Trainer Tips: Ask learners how many countries or States they think exist in the world today. Write down the numbers suggested. Ask how many of those countries they believe are Member States of the UN. Use these responses to bridge into the lesson.

When the UN formed in 1945, it comprised 51 original Member States; today, there are 193. The UN is **impartial**, which means it does not take sides, and **universal**, which means that it includes almost all countries on earth.

The UN's impartiality and universality are two of its strongest assets, particularly today when the international community is increasingly divided. Being impartial and universal makes the UN both **legitimate** and **credible**.

To be legitimate means that the UN is lawful, permitted and valid. To be credible means that the UN is believable, worthy of confidence and trust.



Trainer Tips: How participants serve as peacekeepers can influence the UN's reputation as trustworthy. As ambassadors of the UN, peacekeepers are required to uphold the best of its positive traditions. Their actions and behaviours must embody UN values and behaviours, which are covered in detail in Module 3.

The Charter of the United Nations

Slide 5



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

The UN Charter

- Founding document, signed in 1945
- Defines main purposes and principles
- "Maintain international peace and security" – a main purpose
- Emphasizes the promotion and protection of human rights
- Created the main parts of the UN, called principal organs



UN CPTM 2025 Slide 5



Key Message 3: Signed in 1945, the **Charter of the United Nations** is the founding document of the organization that defines its main purposes and principles. One of its main purposes is to maintain international peace and security. The Charter is considered a cornerstone of international law.

The first article of the **Charter** sets out **four main purposes**:

- To maintain international peace and security
- To develop friendly relations among nations
- To cooperate in solving international problems and to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all
- To harmonize States' actions in reaching these common ends.

The Charter is a **binding international treaty** that spells out Member States' rights and duties as members of the world community.

The Charter also created the main parts of the UN, called the **principal organs**, and guides the work in all aspects of its operations, including **your work** as a peacekeeper.

In 2020, the UN turned 75 years old. In a declaration commemorating its 75th birthday, Heads of State and government reiterated "the importance of abiding by the Charter" and pledged to "promote peace and prevent conflicts".



Reference

- General Assembly, *Declaration on the Commemoration of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the United Nations*, A/RES/75/1, 28 September 2020, Pages 3–5.

UN Principal Organs Involved in Peacekeeping

Slide 6



1.1 UN Peacekeeping – Strategic Level 

The Six Main Organs

- General Assembly
- Security Council
- UN Secretariat
- International Court of Justice
- Economic and Social Council
- Trusteeship Council



UN CPTM 2025 Slide 6



Key Message 4: Six main organs of the UN were created by its Charter: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.

The General Assembly is where Member States meet and vote on decisions. The principle of equality means each Member State has one vote.

The Security Council has the lead responsibility under the Charter to maintain international peace and security, and works as follows:

- The Council has 15 members, including **five permanent members** who helped set up the UN: China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- The General Assembly elects the other **10 rotating members** for two-year terms, ensuring geographical representation.

The Secretariat refers to the departments and offices with their international staff who carry out the UN's day-to-day work. These are UNHQ in New York and offices in Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi and other locations.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is in The Hague, Kingdom of the Netherlands. The ICJ follows international law and settles legal disputes between States only and not between individuals.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is the central body coordinating the UN's economic and social work.

The Trusteeship Council once supervised Trust Territories, which were former colonies or dependent territories, as they progressed towards self-governance or independence. The Trusteeship Council suspended its operation in 1994, with the independence of the last Trust Territory.

Slide 7



Key Message 5: Specialized agencies, funds and programmes also support the work of the UN, including in peacekeeping contexts.

More than 30 organizations work in different areas that span development, humanitarian aid and human rights. Specialized mandates cover many topics.

The **UN system** is the name given to the six principal organs and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes.

Specialized agencies, funds and programmes are active in countries where peacekeeping operations are deployed. They include:

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
- UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
- UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

- UN Population Fund (UNFPA)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- World Health Organization (WHO).

The UN agencies, funds and programmes operating in a particular country make up its UN Country Team (UNCT). The UNCT is a particularly important and active partner to peacekeeping missions before, during and after a conflict.

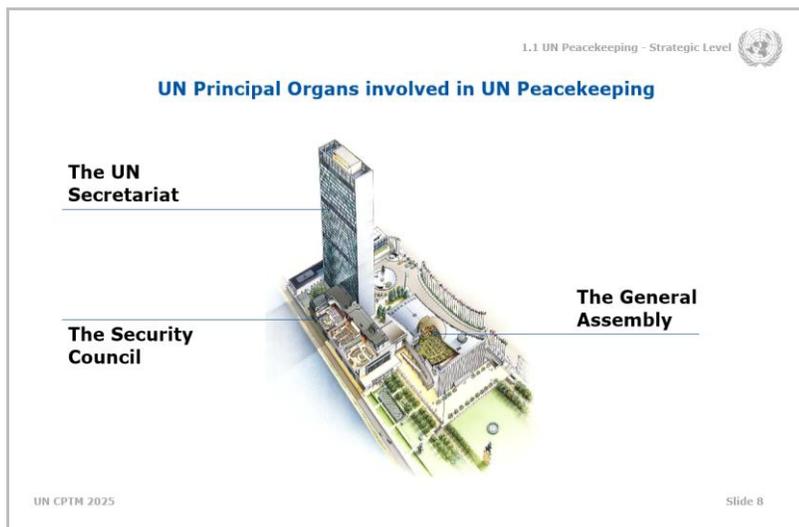


Key Message 14: The UN agencies, funds and programmes working in a country make up the **UN Country Team (UNCT)**. The UNCT is an active partner in a country before, during and after conflict. It is a particularly important partner for peacekeeping missions.



Trainer Tips: Ask learners with peacekeeping experience if they know these or other UN partners. Flag the importance for all peacekeeping personnel to know such partners in the UN family, as well as potential external partners. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), for example, is often active in peacekeeping contexts but is not a part of the UN family. Share your own experience.

Slide 8





Key Message 6: The three principal organs active in UN Peacekeeping are the **General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat**. Each has a unique role.

The General Assembly

Slide 9



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

UN General Assembly

- **The main forum for Member States to make decisions**
- **Referred to as UNGA**
- **UNGA Committees**
 - First - Disarmament & International Security
 - Second - Economic & Financial
 - Third - Social & Humanitarian & Cultural
 - Fourth - Special Political and Decolonization
 - Fifth - Administrative & Budgetary
 - Sixth - Legal



UN CPTM 2025 Slide 9



Key Message 7: The **General Assembly (UNGA)** is the main forum for Member States to discuss issues and make decisions, comprised of representatives of all UN Member States.

The General Assembly (UNGA) works through committees. Its six main committees are supported by other committees that focus on specific topics.

One committee relevant to peacekeeping is the **Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34)**. C-34 reviews and recommends actions on peacekeeping and reports to UNGA through the Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization) and the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary).

The Security Council

Slide 10



1.1 UN Peacekeeping – Strategic Level 

UN Security Council

- Primarily responsible for maintaining international peace and security
- Has power to investigate threats and take appropriate measures



UN CPTM 2025 Slide 10



Key Message 8: The Security Council is the lead UN body responsible for maintaining international peace and security. The Security Council may investigate and recommend measures to resolve disputes within and between States, including those involving peacekeeping.

UN resolutions are formal expressions of positions of UN principal organs. Any peacekeeping operation must have a Security Council **resolution**. Security Council resolutions contain mandates for peacekeeping operations. A **mandate** is an authorization and directive to take specific action.

The peacekeeping mandate in a Security Council resolution is the legal basis for all actions or tasks of the peacekeeping operation, including the use of force. Peacekeeping missions are not tasked or authorized to work on anything outside or beyond their mandate. Knowing the mandate of the peacekeeping mission you are participating in is part of your job description.



Trainer Tips: *How a mandate is written is covered in Lesson 1.5. The fact that any permanent member of the Security Council can veto (block) a resolution may be raised as a reason for its ineffectiveness. Participants may ask questions about why the Security Council is not reformed to avoid this scenario. They need to understand that any reform requires amending the Charter, which in turn requires the backing of and ratification by two thirds of UN members and all five permanent members.*



Permanent members are reluctant to give up their status, and a change to the Charter could be for worse rather than an improvement. Member States could agree on different aspects of the Charter, the UN and its work in 1945 but cannot in the 2020s. A quick Internet search with the key words "reform of the Security Council" can provide insights.

The Security Council also issues resolutions that highlight global concerns relevant to peacekeeping, such as the human rights of women, men, girls and boys, and of the marginal and vulnerable groups that are those usually most affected by conflict. Resolutions can be established through the affirmative vote of at least nine Security Council members, unless they are blocked by at least one of the permanent members (veto rule).



Trainer Tips: *The veto rule refers to the special voting power of permanent Security Council Member States known as the right to veto. It was agreed by the drafters that if any one of the five permanent members cast a negative vote in the 15-member Security Council, the resolution or decision would not be approved.*

All five permanent members have exercised the right of veto at one time or another. If a permanent member does not fully agree with a proposed resolution but does not wish to cast a veto, it may choose to abstain, allowing the resolution to be adopted if it obtains the required nine favourable vote.

The Secretariat

Slide 11



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

UN Secretariat

- The Secretariat is led by the Secretary-General
- The Secretary-General is the chief administrative officer of the organization



UN CPTM 2025Slide 11



Key Message 9: The **UN Secretariat** carries out the day-to-day work of the organization. The Secretariat has a wide variety of departments and offices that deal with UN work, including peacekeeping. Per the Charter, the Secretary-General is the “chief administrative officer” of the UN.

The Secretariat is the UN’s administrative arm. The **Secretary-General** is defined by its Charter as the “**chief administrative officer**” of the entire UN. As head of the Secretariat, the Secretary-General is responsible for UN departments, offices and activities, and provides leadership.

The Secretary-General brings to the Security Council’s attention anything that may threaten international peace and security. The Security Council decides on what constitutes a significant threat, and what measures, if any, the UN will take.

Secretariat Departments Involved in Peacekeeping

Different departments within the Secretariat have actively supported peacekeeping since the first mission (UNTSO) was established in 1948 to oversee the truce between Arab and Jewish communities in Palestine. In 2002, a General Assembly resolution designated 29 May, the day the first mission began, as the International Day of UN Peacekeepers. The day pays tribute to the professionalism, dedication and courage of peacekeepers, and remembers those who have lost their lives for peace. Since 1948, more than 2 million peacekeepers from 125 countries have served in 71 operations.

Slide 12



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

Secretariat Departments involved in UN Peacekeeping

Department of Peace Operations (DPO)

- Provides political and executive direction to UN peacekeeping operations around the world.

Department of Operational Support (DOS)

- Provides operational support to all peacekeeping operations and UN Secretariat entities, including advisory, operational and transactional support services and, where needed, exercises delegated authority on behalf of clients.

Department of Peacebuilding and Political Affairs (DPPA)

- Provides conflict prevention and mediation support around the world and specific direction to special political missions.

UN CPTM 2025 Slide 12



Key Message 10: There are **three departments of the Secretariat** directly involved in UN Peacekeeping:

- Department of Peace Operations (DPO)
- Department of Operational Support (DOS)
- Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA).

The departments and their general roles are as follows:

- **Department of Peace Operations (DPO):** provides political and executive direction to UN Peacekeeping operations around the world.
- **Department of Operational Support (DOS):** provides operational support to all peacekeeping operations and UN Secretariat entities, almost 100 around the globe.
- **Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA):** provides conflict prevention and mediation support around the world and specific direction to special political missions.

An **Under-Secretary-General (USG)** heads each department and reports to the Secretary-General, who delegates certain responsibilities and tasks to each USG.

In 2017, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/72/199, which endorsed restructuring the UN's peace and security pillar. The Department of Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office were combined into the new DPPA. The former Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) became the DPO.

The DPPA and the DPO jointly oversee eight regional divisions. Each manages a mix of peacekeeping operations, special political missions and non-mission settings. A non-mission setting is one with no United Nations (UN) peace operation (neither a peacekeeping operation (PKO) nor a special political mission (SPM)). In these settings, the UN may provide support through specific agencies, funds and programmes as part of a United Nations Country Team (UNCT). Both DPO and DPPA support the regional division with policy and thematic capacities.



Reference

- General Assembly, Resolution on the Restructuring of the United Nations peace and security pillar, A/RES/72/199, 19 January 2018.



Trainer Tips: Invite participants to describe their contact with DPO, DOS and DPPA. Use these descriptions to provide additional detail on the key roles of the departments active in peacekeeping.

Draw on your own experience for examples. Integrating experience-sharing into lessons reinforces the information's relevance and without it, they may seem abstract, distant or irrelevant to newly deploying peacekeepers.

The Department of Peace Operations

Slide 13



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

The Department of Peace Operations

- Provides political guidance and executive direction to UN Peacekeeping operations around the world.
- Maintains contact with the Security Council, troop and financial contributors and parties to the conflict in the implementation of Security Council mandates.
- Serves as focal point between the Secretariat and Member States on UN Peacekeeping operations.

 **United Nations
Peacekeeping**

UN CPTM 2025 Slide 13



Key Message 11: The Department of Peace Operations (DPO) provides political and executive direction to UN Peacekeeping operations around the world. It maintains contact with the Security Council, the States who provide uniformed peacekeepers and funding for peacekeeping and parties to the conflict, to implement Security Council mandates.

The USG in charge of DPO does the following:

- Advises the Secretary-General on the planning, establishment and conduct of all UN Peacekeeping operations
- Directs and controls UN Peacekeeping operations
- Develops policies and guidelines based on Security Council resolutions, including those with mission mandates

- Prepares reports with observations and recommendations from the Secretary-General to the Security Council on each peacekeeping operation
- Ensures DPO-led field missions meet security management requirements
- Serves as a focal point of contact between the Secretariat and Member States who seek information on UN Peacekeeping operations.

The Department of Operational Support

Slide 14



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

The Department of Operational Support

- Delivers operational support to UN field missions
- Delivers support in finance, personnel, administration, information and communications technology and logistics



UN CPTM 2025 Slide 14



Key Message 12: The Department of Operational Support (DOS) delivers dedicated support to UN field missions. The effectiveness of peace operations always depends on the operational support they receive.

DOS supports work on **finance, personnel, administration, information and communications technology and logistics**. With both UN and non-UN partners, it plans, mobilizes and sustains 35 peacekeeping, special political and other field missions in the world's most complex environments (2023 figures).

DOS also provides:

- Logistical services including supplying fuel, water, accommodation, food, offices and equipment, transport and medical facilities for entire missions
- Coordination with Member States and contracted providers of specific services

- Support to all UN field missions, including peacekeeping operations and special political missions (SPMs).

The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

Slide 15



1.1 UN Peacekeeping - Strategic Level 

The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

- Central role in UN efforts to prevent and resolve deadly conflict around the world
- Provides direction to SPMs
- Monitors and assesses global political developments with aim of conflict prevention



UN CPTM 2025 Slide 15



Key Message 13: The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) plays a central role in UN efforts to prevent and resolve deadly conflict around the world.

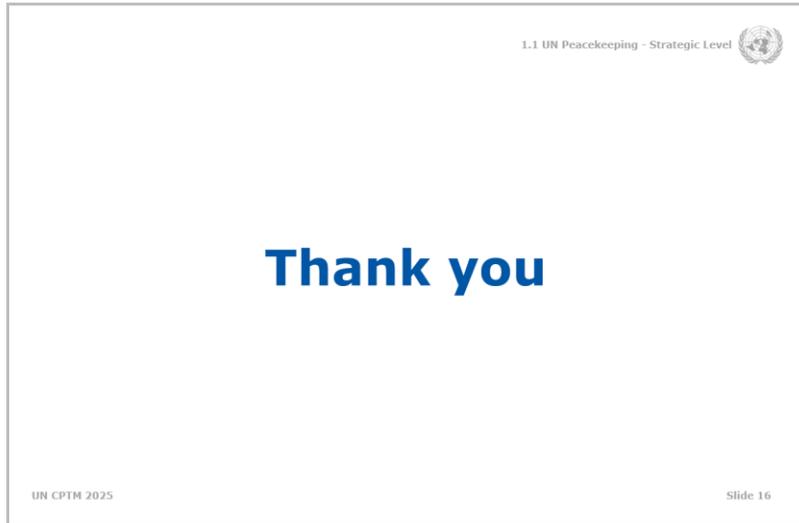
DPPA is the lead UN department for peacemaking and preventive diplomacy. DPPA mainly provides direction to SPMs. SPMs may be political field offices, special envoys, panels or experts tasked with monitoring sanctions. They are often active in conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding.

DPPA monitors and assesses global political developments with the aim of preventing conflict – detecting potential crises and devising effective responses.

DPPA gives analysis and advice to the Secretary-General and other UN envoys in their peace initiatives, as well as to UN political missions around the world.

Lesson Closing

Slide 16



Trainer Tips: *If you have time, summarize the lesson, recalling the aim and learning objectives. Mention that the key messages support the learning objectives. Ask participants if they have questions. Ensure you distribute the Handout – Summary of Key Messages to all participants.*

Handout - Summary of Key Messages

Key Message 1: Violent conflict is devastating. One of peacekeeping's roles is to preserve peace when violent conflict has ended. The UN is the global organization that leads international peacekeeping initiatives.

Key Message 2: The UN is an **impartial** and **universal** organization of 193 countries, called Member States. One reason for creating the UN was to save later generations from directly experiencing violent conflict. **Impartiality** and **universality** are more important in present-day peacekeeping than ever before.

Key Message 3: Signed in 1945, the **Charter of the United Nations** is the founding document of the organization that defines its main purposes and principles. One of its main purposes is to maintain international peace and security. The Charter is a cornerstone of international law.

Key Message 4: Six main organs of the UN were created by its Charter: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.

Key Message 5: Specialized agencies, funds and programmes also support the work of the UN, including in peacekeeping contexts.

Key Message 6: The three principal organs active in UN Peacekeeping are the **General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat**. Each has a unique role.

Key Message 7: The **General Assembly (UNGA)** is the main forum for Member States to discuss issues and make decisions, comprised of representatives of all UN Member States.

Key Message 8: The Security Council is the lead UN body responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. The Security Council may investigate and recommend measures to resolve disputes within and between States, including those involving peacekeeping.

Key Message 9: The **UN Secretariat** carries out the day-to-day work of the organization. The Secretariat has a wide variety of departments and offices that deal with UN work, including peacekeeping. Per the Charter, the Secretary-General is the "chief administrative officer" of the UN.

Key Message 10: There are **three departments of the Secretariat** directly involved in UN Peacekeeping:

- Department of Peace Operations (DPO)
- Department of Operational Support (DOS)
- Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA).

Key Message 11: The Department of Peace Operations (DPO) provides political and executive direction to UN Peacekeeping operations around the world. It maintains contact with the Security Council, the States who provide uniformed peacekeepers and funding for peacekeeping, and parties to the conflict, to implement Security Council mandates.

Key Message 12: The Department of Operational Support (DOS) delivers dedicated support to UN field missions. The effectiveness of peace operations always depends on the operational support they receive.

Key Message 13: The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) plays a central role in UN efforts to prevent and resolve deadly conflict around the world.

Key Message 14. The UN agencies, funds and programmes working in a country make up the **UN Country Team (UNCT)**. The UNCT is an active partner in a country before, during and after a conflict. It is a particularly important partner for peacekeeping missions.