

**Reports of the Secretary-General on Human Resources Management and
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the
United Nations peacekeeping operations
(Agenda items 140 and 148)**

Seconded active-duty military and police personnel (A/74/546)

**Introductory remarks on behalf of Ms. Martha Helena Lopez
Assistant Secretary-General
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Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce the note of the Secretary-General on Seconded Active-Duty Military and Police Personnel (A/74/546).

The note has been prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 71/263, in which the Assembly endorsed an extension for a further three years the exceptional measures recommended by the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/71/557), and requested the Secretary-General to intensify his engagement with Member States with a view to identifying alternative solutions for addressing conflicts between national legislation and the United Nations Staff Regulations and Rules regarding the secondment of active-duty military and police personnel.

In an effort to identify potential conflicts between national legislation and United Nations Staff Regulations and Rules, the Secretariat circulated on 17 October 2019 a Note Verbale to all Member States requesting Member States to provide information on potential conflicts as well as on remuneration and benefits provided to active-duty seconded officers, as recommended in the report of the Committee.

Despite having extended the deadline of the survey to 22 November 2019 the Secretariat has received only 34 responses from Member States, representing an 17% response rate. Of those 34 Member States that responded, 15 reported potential conflicts, either because national legislation provided for additional salary payments, prohibited the receipt of remuneration from the United Nations, or provided for the payment of pension contributions. Nineteen other Member States reported no conflict between their national legislation and UN Staff Regulations and Rules.

Currently the Secretariat is implementing the exceptional measures for seconded officers from four Member States that reported a conflict between the United Nations Staff Regulations and Rules and the national legislations. Currently eight officers are benefitting from the exceptional measures that are due to expire at the end of December 2019.

Distinguished delegates,

The Secretary-General, in his previous report on Seconded active-duty military and police personnel (A/68/495), proposed addressing the potential conflict with national legislation through amendments to the UN Staff Regulations and Rules. While the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/252, requested the Secretary-General to submit a new proposal, if necessary, due to the low response rate and lack of information, it has not been possible to develop a new proposal as the response rate remains very low. The Secretary-General is therefore requesting the General Assembly to consider extending the application of the exceptional measure provided in its resolutions 67/287, 68/252, and 71/263 until December 2020 so that the active-duty personnel who are currently benefitting from the exceptional measures may continue to serve without any conflict.

The Secretary-General also requests Member States to cooperate fully with requests for information by the Secretariat on any potential conflicts between their national legislation and the UN Staff Regulations and Rules, as well as any remuneration and benefits provided to active-duty seconded officers.

In the meantime, the Secretariat will continue to request seconded active-duty officers to disclose any remuneration or benefits received from their Governments. As we have done since the implementation of the Exceptional measures where an officer discloses receipt of remuneration, the Secretariat will continue to work with the relevant Member State to regularize the situation by applying the exceptional measures, if the extension is approved.

Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates, thank you for your consideration of the report and I welcome your questions and comments.

Thank you.