

## 6. Operational definitions:

### a) Peace operations:

Peace operations serve to promote stability or peace through conflict prevention, management or resolution activities. Specifically, they are third party interventions that normally involve a multilaterally sanctioned (though not necessarily multilaterally-led) mandate with start and end dates, often with multifunctional characteristics. They may or may not have a military component.

Subsumed under peace operations are such activities as classical peacekeeping, peace enforcement, civilian missions, and humanitarian interventions. Resources engaged in peace operations are now employed in a variety of circumstances, ranging for example from cease-fire supervision to the delivery of humanitarian aid, the monitoring of elections, and the clearing of land-mines.

Examples of peace operations would include: UNDOF (Golan), Operation Desert Storm, MICIVIH (Haiti), MINURCA (Central African Republic), UNTAC (Cambodia), SFOR (Bosnia), MINUGUA (Guatemala).

### b) Gender:

The term "gender" refers to the socially constructed roles, norms, expectations and stereotypes accorded to women and men (rather than the biological distinction of men and women). Thus a gender perspective implies analyses of social relations between women and men (girls and boys) in a given context (i.e. a culturally and historically determined context).

Mainstreaming or fully integrating a gender perspective implies a process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies and programmes, in all areas, at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's (girls' and boys') concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men (girls and boys) benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated.

Effective integration of a gender perspective into peacebuilding strategies and operations cannot proceed in isolation of the design, implementation and tracking of such activities nor can it proceed as an add-on effort. Gender analysis must proceed from the outset and throughout. It should seek to recognize and address women's and men's (girls' and boys') gender-differentiated experiences of armed conflict, peace operations and long-term peacebuilding. It should also cast its analysis such as to include gender-differentiated experiences of pre-conflict social organization -- from governance and legislation to human rights and socio-economic conditions -- in order to best capture the gender dimensions of the context in which conflict management and resolution as well as post-conflict reconstruction activities will be taking place.