

At the UN, Canada should push for peacebuilding mandates for the SRSG that accompany the mandate establishing a mission. This will not only promote peacebuilding as an integral part of an operation, but provides the SRSG with overall authority for peacebuilding among all the UN agencies in the mission area enabling him to harness and coordinate their contribution. Such a mandate will allow the SRSG freedom to improvise within the mission. Again, peacebuilding trust funds that the SRSG can draw on to improvise should also be a regular aspect of each mission. Canada should be among the first to contribute to such trust funds, even if they are not participating in the operation.

Canada should also make the argument for strengthening the capacity of DPKO or at least ensuring that its capacity is not diminished when gratis military officers leave. As it stands, its strength in training will be reduced from eleven officer to two and its police unit will be reduced from seven to two. We should also ensure that DPKO personnel makeup should reflect the complexity of PSOs. While civilian police are represented on the staff no humanitarian officer is in house. This should be corrected. It might also take the lead in mobilizing private sector donations to the UN that could be dedicated to specific aspects of peacebuilding and PSOs and make up for public sector shortfalls.

Canada needs to stress the importance of peacebuilding being sustainable and transferable beyond the life of the PSO. Responsibility and ownership of peacebuilding projects should be given to the locals as soon as that is possible. Mechanisms for continuous funding need to be developed so projects do not come to an end once the PSO leaves. This issue goes to the need for coordination over time, as mentioned above.

One of the most persistent problems in PSOs is the need to renew mandates. In Liberia, UNOMIL's mandate had to be renewed or extended at least three times. In Haiti, the various UN missions there had to have their mandates renewed time and again over four years, each time for three to six month periods. Short mandates, due to resource shortfall etc, completely contradict the long-term peacebuilding nature of many PSOs. Whenever possible, Canada should insist that peace support operations be given a mandate whose length is commensurate with the